

THE TIMES  
Saturday

**TIMES**

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Saturday  
Review

Why Bush fears  
this woman



Dianne Feinstein  
wants to govern  
California. George  
Bush wants her to fail.  
Peter Stothard reports  
from out west

Time and the  
scientist

Stephen Hawking's  
physical disability has  
proved to be no  
impediment to his  
mathematical  
explorations

At last, the  
Gibbons show

The best work of  
Grinling Gibbons, past  
master of sculpted  
wood, finally gets an  
exhibition

LIVING

A rainbow  
of hope



Derris O'Callaghan on  
dreaming in colour in  
her job as director of  
the much-maligned  
Barbican Arts Centre

Billionaire  
barbarians

Whose job should it be  
to stem the rising tide  
of art robberies?

SPORT

They're ready  
minus Eddie

There is more to  
British skiing than the  
exploits of Eddie  
Edwards. Brian James  
joined the team

MONEY

Follow that  
pension

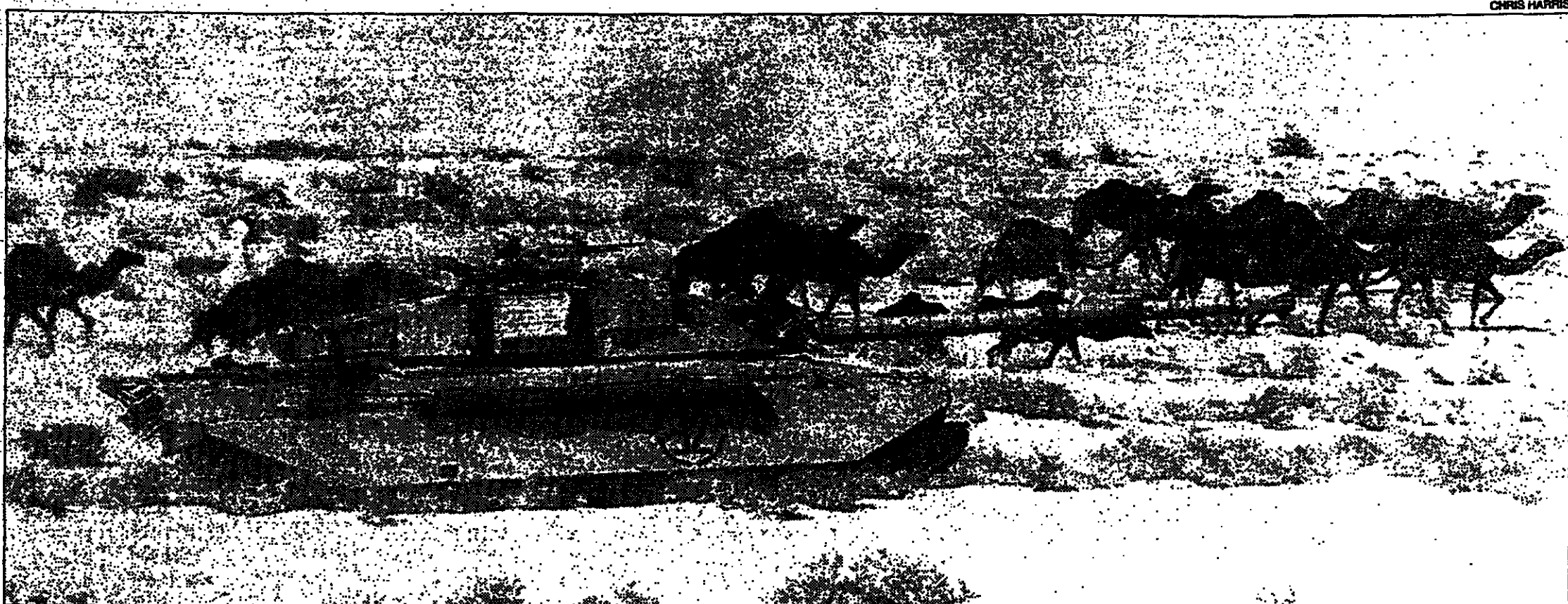
An interview with the  
man who tracks down  
thousands of "lost"  
pensions

Clocks go back

British summer time ends at  
2am tomorrow. Clocks and  
watches should be put back  
one hour to 1am (GMT). In  
1991 the summer time period  
will be from March 31 to  
October 27.

INDEX

Arts	23
Art market	21
Births, marriages, deaths	15
Chess	12
Court & social	14
Crosswords	15-26
Leading articles	13
Letters	18
Obituaries	14
Sport	27-33
TV & radio	24-25
Weather	26
Weekend money	40-48



Onward into the desert: the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, renowned for the Charge of the Light Brigade, taking the first British tanks into the Saudi desert from Dhahran yesterday.

## Hatton held in police raids over land deals

By RONALD FAUX

DEREK Hatton, the flamboyant former deputy leader of Liverpool city council, was among 22 people arrested yesterday morning in a series of raids by police investigating allegedly corrupt council land deals.

Mr Hatton, the only detainee to be identified, was last night released on police bail until March 25. His solicitor, David Phillips, said: "No charges have been preferred. He is denying all the allegations that have been put to him."

A number of councillors were arrested in the raids, but Keva Coombes, the recently-deposed council leader, was not among them. His solicitor, Rex Makin, said that Mr Coombes had been assisting police with their enquiries "as a matter of public duty". No solicitors or council officers were arrested.

Two hundred and eighty officers had executed search warrants on sixty business premises and private homes in Merseyside, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Che-

shire in what was described as a search for evidence of corruption, theft, forgery and false accounting. Jewellery worth £250,000 from a safety deposit box was recovered during the Operation Cheetah raids, part of a seven-month-old investigation into the land deals.

Clive Atkinson, Merseyside assistant chief constable for crime said: "This is only the first phase of what has already become a major enquiry. Merseyside police are determined to get to the bottom of recurring allegations which have riddled the city in recent years. We have a duty to the people of Merseyside to investigate and, where sufficient evidence exists, to place people before the courts. This morning's activity does not mark the end of the enquiry. It is only the beginning."

Mr Atkinson said the investigation would be long-running and there would be further substantial activity. Police were working closely with the fraud investigation group of the Crown Prosecution Service. He said that police had already uncovered

a lot of information and many people had come forward but he appealed for those with information who may have been reluctant to tell police what they know to come forward.

Mr Hatton emerged from his home in Wavertree, Liverpool, at 9.45 yesterday morning accompanied by police officers. He was smiling and looked untroubled as they took him to the offices of Setaside, his public relations company in the city centre, where he was interviewed for two-and-a-half hours. Fraud squad officers took material from both his home and the offices and Mr Hatton was then taken to Stanley Road police station, where Operation Cheetah is being co-ordinated.

Liverpool city council has for several years been selling land to help to finance an ambitious house-building programme launched by the deposed Militant-dominated administration of the mid-1980s. Liverpool this year faces a projected deficit of more than £12 million, largely because it is thought unlikely in the depressed property market that it will find more than £53 million from land and property sales. It had been hoping to raise £60 million.

Concern about council land deals first became public in 1985 when David Alton, Liberal Democrat MP for Liverpool Mossley Hill, asked questions in Parliament about plans to build a £10 million Asda superstore in the Speke enterprise zone. Police investigated the deal, but eventually dropped the enquiry.

Mr Alton said last night: "For the past five years, I have consistently pressed for the police and the environment department to investigate Liverpool's financial affairs." He said the city was £750 million in debt because of a combination of political ideology and alleged corruption. "The people of the city have suffered along with its reputation."

Mr Hatton, a former fireman, became involved with the Labour party in 1974. He later joined Militant because he was uneasy about the direction in which Neil

Continued on page 26, col 7

Leading article, page 13

Background, page 2

## Batten down the hatches warning

By LIN JENKINS

GUIDELINES to householders on how to limit storm damage have been issued by the Association of British Insurers, following the warning from the meteorological office that stormy weather is expected to begin battering much of Britain from tomorrow night.

The association suggested doors and windows be shut, garden furniture and children's bicycles and toys be put away and ladders and scaffolding taken down. Cars should be garaged or moved away from trees and potential hazards and gutters and roofs checked for blockages and loose tiles.

The London weather centre has warned that stormy weather from tomorrow night is likely to cause structural damage and computer predictions have indicated a weather pattern similar to that of last January, when winds of more than 70 mph caused the deaths of 47 people, felled trees and resulted in £1 billion worth of damage to buildings.

The reluctance then to issue a public warning was less evident yesterday when meteorologists said they were sure a depression, monitored leaving Newfoundland, was heading for Britain.

Weathermen predict the worst of the winds will hit western and northern areas and be strongest over high ground. The stormy spell is expected to last until Tuesday. Crew rescued: The British three-man crew of the Grace, a crippled 37-foot yacht, was rescued yesterday eight hours after the vessel capsized and rolled 360 degrees in Atlantic gales.

They were picked up by the Turkish registered Elkin 29 on its way to Holland.

Today's weather, page 26

## Mayor Barry sentenced to six months in jail

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

A WASHINGTON judge yesterday sentenced Marion Barry, the city's mayor, to six months in jail for possession of cocaine. The sentence was unusually hard for a first-time offence and ignored leniency pleas from Barry's lawyers.

"The public rumours of his drug use gave aid, comfort and encouragement to the drug culture at large," said Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson.

"Now he must become an example of another kind. The sentence, which included a \$5,000 (£2,550) fine, does not preclude Barry running for a city council seat in elections on November 6 since he was convicted for a misdemeanour and not a felony.

Running scared, page 10  
Woman who haunts president,  
Saturday Review, page 10



Shimon Peres yesterday: blamed 'Arab provocation'

## Israel justifies Temple Mount use of firearms

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

TO ANGRY Arab protests, the eagerly awaited official Israeli report into the Temple Mount killings on October 8 yesterday criticised the handling of the riots by senior police commanders but justified the use of live ammunition because the lives of policemen had been in danger.

The report of the three-man investigation team, led by General Zvi Zamir, attributed the cause of the riots to stone-throwing by Arab demonstrators "incited by preachers on loudspeakers." This was a "serious criminal offence" which had sparked off the "tragic chain of events".

Palestinian sources have claimed that the riots began when police lobbed tear gas at the crowd assembled on Temple Mount, either by accident or design.

The report said police had "gathered in an unsupervised manner" and accused it of "an indiscriminate use of live ammunition". But the rescue of two policemen trapped inside the Temple Mount police station had "justified a quick operation and the use of all means."

The Zamir report criticised Rahamin Comfort, the head of Police Southern Command

(which included Jerusalem) and Aryeh Bibi, the commander of the Jerusalem police force, for failing to react to advance information given to them by the Shin Bet, the internal security service.

Some officials said that senior police officers "might have to resign". But General Zamir, a former head of Mossad, the Israeli intelligence service, said that recommending disciplinary action lay outside the scope of his inquiry. Ronni Milo, the minister of police, said the cabinet would study the report tomorrow and take "appropriate steps".

The report put the number of Arabs killed at 20, with 53 injured. It said 19 policemen had also been injured, as well as nine Jewish worshippers at the Wailing Wall.

A spokesman for Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, said: "The whole tragic event and the tragic loss of life began as the result of a provocation by Arab extremists. All in all I think the police did a good job."

Palestinian sources dismissed the report as "a whitewash".

Israel has been under intense pressure to agree to an investigation set up by the United Nations' secretary-general, but it has refused.

Partition denial, page 9

## Kuwait is reduced to small port town

From NICHOLAS BEESTON  
IN BAGHDAD

IRAQI occupation forces in Kuwait have been ordered to turn what was once one of the most sophisticated and modern cities in the Arab world into a small Iraqi port town.

The systematic looting of the emirate was not simply the act of a conquering army enjoying the spoils of victory, but rather a deliberate plan to dismantle the infrastructure of a nation-state and impose rapid demographic changes.

A senior Iraqi official said yesterday: "The situation in Kuwait is now being corrected and is getting back to normal. This false state is returning to being a normal city."

The plan will add weight to the argument put forward by Britain and the United States that unless Iraq can be made to withdraw from Kuwait, either by force or through the effect of economic sanctions, there may be nothing left of the country to restore to its ousted people and government.

The Iraqi strategy appears to be designed to reduce the population, which before the invasion consisted of 550,240 Kuwaitis and 1,463,934 foreign workers, to about one-tenth of its size.

The looting and destruction that followed the invasion on

Continued on page 26, col 2

Tanks on the move, page 9  
Diary, page 12  
Battle date line, page 12

WHERE  
DO ACTORS GET  
THEIR BEST  
PARTS THESE  
DAYS?  
DAVID LYNCH?  
OR  
COSMETIC  
SURGEONS?



This month's GQ looks at the changing face of cosmetic surgery. Plus: Twin Peaks, Bernardo Bertolucci and Giacomo Sannesi.

GQ: The men's magazine with an I.Q.  
November issue out now.

Stephen Hawking interview  
Saturday Review page 4

## Scientists uncover a giant among galaxies

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

AMERICAN astronomers have identified what they say is the largest galaxy ever observed. It is more than 60 times the size of our own galaxy, the Milky Way, and contains 100 million million stars. Despite its immense size, the galaxy is so far away that until now it has appeared as a bright but anonymous spot on charts of the heavens.

The discovery came from the close study of pictures taken at the Kitt Peak national observatory in Arizona of a well-known galaxy called Abell 2029, after George Abell, who worked on charting its composition. The galaxy has a bright core, but the new pictures enabled astronomers to observe its outermost fringes and make new estimates of its total size.

Writing in *Science* magazine, the

astronomers say that the galaxy is six million light years in diameter, which makes it more than four times as big as the largest previously known galaxy, Markarian 348. A light year, the distance light travels in a year, is about six million million miles.

Jeffrey Kuhn, an astronomer from Michigan State University, says that the claim that Abell 2029 is the largest galaxy rests on the photographic evidence that it is a smooth and continuous distribution of light and energy, with the outer regions connected to the bright central core, which emits about a quarter of the light. "Since it's a smooth distribution, the outer part really is connected to the inner part. It's a very large, organised galaxy," he says.

Dr Kuhn worked with colleagues Juan Uson of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Socorro,

New Mexico, and Stephen Boughn of Haverford college in Pennsylvania. Their interest lies in search for the so-called "missing mass" which is one of modern cosmology's greatest puzzles.

The problem is that the mass that is needed to account for the gravitational behaviour of the galaxies and of the universe as a whole is at least ten and maybe as much as 100 times greater than the mass that can actually be observed. Either the theories of gravitation are wrong, or there exists more mass than we can actually see. Explaining where all this mass is a major problem for astronomers.

The three astronomers say that the density, luminosity and smoothness of the gigantic galaxy they have discovered could provide clues to its origin and to the nature of this dark matter, or missing mass, which ap-

pears to make up the bulk of the universe. They are interested in searching for the faint light from clusters of galaxies that may indicate where this missing mass is.

Some astronomers believe that black holes, vast haloes of invisible hot gas, or large numbers of strange particles like neutrinos make up the missing mass. Others believe that there is much more material in the known galaxies than has yet been allowed for, and that there is no need to search for improbable answers. This week's claims of a galaxy to dwarf anything previously dreamed of would appear to support this the argument but, as usual in science, more observations will be needed to confirm it.



# Molyneux fears Brooke initiative will not succeed

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AS THE deadlock on the government's initiative on devolution for Northern Ireland continues, Jim Molyneux, leader of the Ulster Unionist party, has spoken of his fear that the process will not succeed.

Mr Molyneux has not abandoned hope of the "Brooke initiative" producing inter-party talks in the province, but he said he was now more pessimistic about its prospects than at any time since the breakdown on July 5.

Mr Molyneux, who will address his party at its annual conference in Newcastle, Co Down, today, said he was no longer sure that he was right to have accepted the claim by Peter Brooke, Northern Ireland Secretary, made in January at the launch of the initiative, that there was sufficient common ground between the constitutional parties for talks on devolution.

"Maybe, with hindsight, I was at fault for accepting the rather optimistic basis of his speech (at Bangor) on the January 9." Once the process had been started, however, Mr Molyneux was anxious not to disclose his instinctive fears that it would probably come to nothing.

"We kept sounding optimistic and so forth, but we had the nagging fear that someone, somewhere would torpedo the whole operation," he said. He felt the initiative was the latest example of civil servants at the Northern Ireland Office persuading successive secretaries of state to try something, even though political conditions and attitudes had

not changed sufficiently to give the initiatives a reasonable chance of success.

In this case, he said, the dispute over the timing of Dublin's involvement with Northern Ireland politicians as part of a three-tiered structure of talks was not a specific problem that had arisen by chance, but a reflection of the continuing deep mistrust between the two communities in Ulster.

Mr Molyneux said that his main fear all along had been that the Brooke process was logically bound to arrive at some form of "permanent compulsory coalition" at Stormont. He believed that it would be unworkable, citing the elections when unionists and nationalists would fight on opposing tickets, only to return to government together — a process he believed made a mockery of the very existence of separate parties.

He also believed that the approach of the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour party to its discussions with Mr Brooke had been based throughout on the assumption that Northern Ireland was no longer being treated as part of the United Kingdom. "That's how they based their ideas for a completely new structure which was going to transcend everything else," he said.

"That was all very well for them, but you can't transcend the awkward reality that Northern Ireland is currently a part of the UK, and there's no indication that the vast majority of people, Protestant and Roman Catholic alike,

want to change that status.

"So you can't possibly start from a baseline that Northern Ireland is out on its own, and say 'here's a home handy in the south of Ireland, let's see how we can merge the two together'. That was really the thrust of SDLP philosophy."

Mr Molyneux indicated that he believed a decision either to progress with the initiative or abandon it should be made soon, to put an end to the instability and rumour which, he said, encouraged the activities of the IRA. In the meantime, he would be renewing his efforts to persuade the Northern Ireland Office, and Mr Brooke, to take steps to improve the government of Northern Ireland through the introduction of legislation by parliamentary bills to replace orders in council, and the creation of a select committee, in spite of a decision by Westminster that there would be no such committee.

Mr Thatcher was last night accused of encouraging the IRA by supporting the Anglo-Irish Agreement. Enoch Powell, the former Conservative and Ulster Unionist MP, said that the prime minister's backing of the 1985 agreement meant that she was helping the terrorists to achieve their aim.

Mr Powell added: "Is it not her signature, her ink, upon the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which conceded a privileged position in this part of the United Kingdom to the state whose very constitution enshrines the claim which the IRA are prosecuting through violence and murder?"

## 'Dublingate' tape comes back to haunt candidate

By OUR IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

POLITICS in the Irish Republic has always been enlivened by tasty scandals but there will probably never be a better one than what has rapidly become known as "Dublingate".

The question is: did Brian Lenihan, the deputy prime minister and Fianna Fail presidential candidate, telephone the Irish president on the night of January 27, 1982, to try to persuade him not to dissolve parliament?

Nearly nine years later it may seem a bit late to consider this question. Mr Lenihan's recent answers to it, however, have thrust him and the government into a crisis that might cost him what seemed like a certain victory in the presidential race next month. Worse still, it could lead to a general election if a no-confidence vote in the government succeeds next week.

The suggestion is that senior members of Fianna Fail sought to influence Patrick Hillery, the president, as he considered whether to dis-

solve parliament after the Fine Gael/Labour coalition under Dr Garret Fitzgerald was unexpectedly defeated on a budget motion. This has been subsumed, however, by accusations that Mr Lenihan, who is alleged to have been one of three members of Fianna Fail's front bench that called that night, had lied to the Irish people.

The scandal emerged last Monday on RTE television's *Questions and Answers* programme, Ireland's equivalent of *Question Time*, when Dr Fitzgerald said that the president had been besieged by phone calls from senior Fianna Fail MPs and that Mr Lenihan was among the most persistent. Mr Lenihan, also on the programme, flatly denied making any calls.

Yesterday *The Irish Times* struck what appears to have been a devastating blow to Mr Lenihan when it published a transcript of a taped interview recorded by him last May with a Dublin student. In the

interview he clearly recalls that he was one of three people who phoned Dr Hillery, including the prime minister, Charles Haughey, who was then in opposition. Mr Lenihan now denies that he was talking accurately at the time.

The affair has provoked accusations by government ministers that Mr Lenihan has been the target of a smear campaign by the opposition parties.

Alan Dukes, the Fine Gael leader, who has tabled motions of no confidence in Mr Lenihan and in the government due to be debated next week, says that Mr Lenihan is now not fit to be president. A general election could follow a defeat for the government on the motions if the junior coalition partners, the Progressive Democrats, vote with the opposition. However, the party's poor support in the polls at this stage means that it is unlikely to want to risk an election.

## BRADFORD & BINGLEY BUILDING SOCIETY NEW RATES OF INTEREST FOR BORROWERS

Notice is given to borrowers whose existing variable rate loan or mortgage was completed before 23rd February 1990 that the rates charged will be reduced by 0.9% on 1st November 1990 (or later in accordance with the mortgage deed).

For those borrowers completing since 23rd February 1990 and before 11th October 1990 and whose mortgage benefits from the special 0.9% rate reduction for new business, the rate of interest will be affected as follows:-

1. For those with mortgages between £30,000 and £59,999 where the loan was 75% or less of valuation, the rate charged will be reduced by 0.25% on 1st November 1990.
2. For those with mortgages of £60,000 and above where the loan was 75% or less of valuation, the rate charged will be reduced by 0.6% on 1st November 1990.
3. For those with any other mortgage the rate charged will remain at the current level.

For all other borrowers completing since 23rd February 1990 and before 11th October 1990 and whose mortgage does not benefit from the

special 0.9% reduction for new business, the rate charged will be reduced by 0.9% on 1st November 1990.

Those borrowers on Fixed Rate Mortgages will continue to be charged the agreed rate until the end of the period stated in their offer of mortgage.

Under our procedure for reviewing subscriptions annually, all borrowers will be notified of any revised interest rate and monthly payment with their annual statement in January 1991. No change will be made to borrowers' monthly payments before that date. However those members who wish to immediately receive details of their interest rate, or change their monthly payment, can enquire at their local Branch Office.



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## Pay problems bring about unlikely talks

Meetings between the unions, employers and government may be a step back to a new way forward, Philip Bassett writes. A TUC idea will be discussed next week

BEER and sandwiches at Number 10? The return of the social contract, the pay concordat? Suddenly, a new, old idea is reintroduced: the prospect of a return to tripartite bargaining over wages, of the government, employers and unions sitting together to talk about incomes.

After a long period of political dormancy, pay is again a political as well as an economic issue. With inflation at 10.9 per cent, unemployment on the rise, interest rates high and Britain now in the exchange-rate mechanism, wage restraint — whether imposed by the disciplines of the ERM, or exhorted by government ministers — is seen as vital to economic recovery.

The cause is that the notion of wages responsibility is coming from the government, employers, and from the unions too. The TUC has submitted a 16-page document, *Europe 1992 and After: Challenges for Britain*, for next week's quarterly meeting of the tripartite National Economic Development Council, to be chaired by Michael Howard, the employment secretary.

Union leaders were divided about the document yesterday. Bill Jordan, president of the AEU engineering union, who will present the paper to the NEDC meeting, said that it was being misinterpreted. He said the thrust of the TUC's case would be the need to talk about adapting the

whole of the economy, not just wages, to the demands of the European single market.

The TUC paper does not advocate a return to full-blown corporatism, to beer and sandwiches with the government. It is a summary of the TUC's position on the economy and Europe, including wages, in the wake of Britain's ERM entry.

TUC insiders say that the use of the word "responsibilities" in relation to pay costs is the key to its position, and wholly different from anything the TUC has said on this issue in ten years. It is close to the idea of more synchronised pay bargaining including a tripartite National Economic Assessment, which the TUC backed at its annual congress. That proposal is linked to a forthcoming Labour government. The TUC's NEDC paper is for next week, for discussion with this — Conservative — government.

The dispute within the TUC which exploded yesterday after the disclosure of the paper in *The Times* may lead to pressure for it to be withdrawn. Whether or not the paper's remarks on pay bear the weight of interpretation that union leaders like John Edmonds of the GMB general union are placing upon them, what is clear is

that the unions are united in a fear of job losses after ERM entry. Mr Edmonds is talking of possible losses of 300,000 jobs. John Bannham, CBI director-general, is forecasting that a million jobs could go unless the unions do bargain responsibly. The unions are opposed to more unemployment: socially, because they believe it is wrong, and economically unnecessary, because it would add still further to the 4 million members they have lost in the past decade.

Some unions have more than a hankering after more centralised, co-ordinated, responsible wage bargaining. It is hard to see it happening for a range of reasons, including:

• Internal union divisions. Left-wing union leaders like Ken Gill of MSF do not like any form of incomes policy. Right-wingers like Gavin Laird of the AEU engineering workers would not want to see the wages of his highly-skilled, highly-paid members squeezed.

• Union density. Union coverage is so much less now than when there was last centralised pay planning. At the end of the 1970s, density stood at 50 per cent, now it is 37 per cent. In the private sector, where any pay responsibility

would need to hit hardest to work, it is 27 per cent. Non-union employees, the majority of the UK workforce, would not be affected, except by unionised wages dragging them along. Even then, the non-union sector tends to settle higher than the union sector.

• Bargaining structure. This year will be the first pay round without one of the giants of national, centralised bargaining: the national-level deal in the engineering industry. Its disappearance is typical. Pay bargaining is more localised. That would not sit easily with any national pay co-ordination.

• Union legislation. Union ability to deliver members' votes, crucial to many unionised employers when they want to sell a pay deal to employees, is much less than it was a decade ago.

There is a growing recognition that Britain's ERM entry will mark a fundamental change to pay bargaining.

In terms of job losses and wage levels, that change could hurt. Limiting the hurt is something on which government, employers and the unions could agree.

□ Calls by ministers or employers for lower pay increases are largely ineffective, the chairman of the govern-

ment's principal industrial relations body said yesterday. Douglas Smith, chairman of Acas, the conciliation service, also said that pressure from the Confederation of British Industry for a large-scale reduction in unit labour costs was unrealistic, and unlikely to be achieved.

Ministers, led by John Major, the Chancellor, and Michael Howard, the employment secretary, have been urging wage bargainers to reach lower pay settlements after Britain's entry into ERM.

Mr Smith, speaking in Harrogate to the annual conference of the Institute of Personnel Management, said: "I know of no evidence in the post-war period that exhortation has made a blind bit of difference to employee expectations or employer behaviour."

He accepted that the ERM would exert a fierce discipline on wage bargaining, but was sceptical about CBI calls that the link between pay rises and inflation must be broken this year. Lord McCarthy, Labour's employment spokesman in the Lords, was doubtful that ERM entry would have a coercive effect on wages in the next six months.

He said that settlements had risen by 27 per cent since the start of last year's wage round. Previous pay explosions in 1971-72 and 1974-75 had led to the imposition of incomes policies.

Unashed from mast, page 13



Protesters vowing to fight on yesterday: Mr Crocker, left, Mrs Bryant, Mr Beckett and Mr Denton-Thompson

## Court rejects protest over M3 route

By NICHOLAS WAIT

CAMPAIGNERS who had tried to prevent the transport department from driving the M3 through the scenic Twyford Down in Hampshire failed at the High Court yesterday when Mr Justice McCullough refused to quash the scheme.

He said the protesters had not put forward any legal arguments that could stop the scheme, and added that to have quashed it would have delayed an important part of the motorway. He ordered the campaigners to pay costs, estimated at £100,000. They were given 21 days to lodge notice of an appeal.

Barbara Bryant, the Winchester housewife who led the campaign against the Twyford motorway extension, said after the hearing that she was very disappointed. "It is a David and Goliath situation but we all know what happened in the end there. We will pursue every avenue that is open to us to ensure that this environmental vandalism and bureaucratic corruption is stopped."

The options included appealing to the prime minister's "environmental conscience", an appeal through the courts, or taking the case to the European Commission.

The campaigners, who have a £75,000 fighting fund, had wanted the transport department to spend an extra £90 million to run the final section of the M3 through a tunnel under the downland instead of through a 400ft-wide and 100ft-deep cutting that was approved in February. The down is the last open piece of chalk surrounding Winchester, and is part of the east Hampshire area of outstanding natural beauty. It has two scheduled ancient monuments and is an area of special scientific interest.

Mrs Bryant, aged 45, said that the original route decision was made ten years ago on incorrect information. Since then there had been confusion between public enquiries and consultations.

John Browne, the city's Conservative MP, accused the transport department of bully-

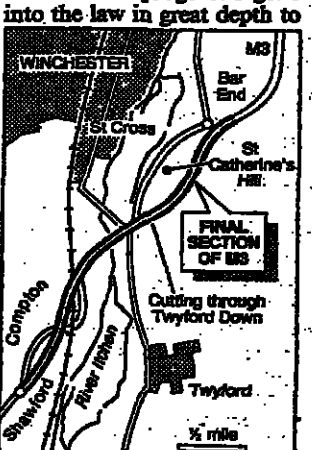
ing the people of Winchester. "We have a government caring about the environment, but when it comes to big money they are not prepared to act," he said. There had been very serious misgivings within the environment department over the Twyford issue, Mr Browne said, but they had lost the battle with the transport department.

Mr Browne praised the way in which the judge had gone into the law in great depth to

reach a "balanced and fair view". Mr Justice McCullough had stressed that it was not for the court to decide on the merits of one route or another. The court's sole function, he said, was to decide whether the environment secretary, Chris Patten, and the transport secretary, Cecil Parkinson, had "misunderstood or misapplied" the law in approving the scheme.

The judge rejected the campaigners' argument that by approving the scheme the government had ignored a 1988 legally binding EC directive requiring member states to make an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on projects that affect the environment. It did not apply to schemes in the pipeline.

The challenge was also brought by David Crocker, aged 58, a Winchester city councillor; Merrick Denton-Thompson, aged 42, Hampshire's county landscape architect; and the parish councils of Twyford and Compton and Shawford.



## Liverpool to face unions on job cuts

By RONALD FAUX

WITH a £12 million budget deficit and the shadow of the district auditor looming over Liverpool, the city council is preparing for confrontation with the powerful town hall unions as redundancies are planned to cut costs.

Recent increases in council rents are not expected to raise sufficient revenue to close the gap in council spending. Cuts in the 29,000-strong council workforce are now believed to be the only alternative open to the council, to avoid the worst situation since the days of Militant control.

Up to 1,000 redundancies are expected in the attempt to balance the city council's books. The council is Liverpool's biggest employer. High interest rates, increased fuel costs and a fall in the value of property and land the council was prepared to put on the market have all added to the

fall in council income. The return from poll tax payments of less than 45 per cent has added to the projected deficit. Loans from Japanese and Swiss banks taken out during the Militant regime account for repayments this year of £16 million in interest charges alone.

A recent financial review from the city treasurer speaks of intervention by the district auditor if the city's deficit is not dealt with, and of the probability that Liverpool councillors will face disqualification and financial penalties.

The unions have indicated that they will resist attempts to make redundancies. Industrial action is being planned this month unless the council gives an assurance that there will be no compulsory redundancies, and an all-out strike could be called if jobs are lost.

## Prisoner loses court battle over letters

A PRISONER yesterday lost a court battle to stop prison authorities reading his private legal correspondence.

Mark Leech, jailed for six years at the High Court in Inverness on August 7, 1987, and serving a three-year sentence in Blunderton prison, England, claimed that his rights were being violated. He said that prisoners were entitled to have "unimpeded access" to the courts.

Leech challenged Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, who maintained that Scottish prison authorities were entitled to read and, if thought fit, stop written correspondence between a prisoner and his lawyer.

Leech claimed this rule was unlawful and asked the Court of Session to declare that a prisoner was entitled to unimpeded and uncensored correspondence with his legal advisers about potential legal proceedings.

He said the rule to manage and regulate prisoners was very wide in its terms. There was little doubt that convicted prisoners retained all civil rights which were not taken away expressly. Those rights included unimpeded access to the courts. If the prisoner did not have reasonable access to legal advice, he might be prevented from going to court.

However, Lord Caplan added: "There is a distinction between a right of access and a right to access in a manner which is suited to his convenience."

In reality, said the judge, a prisoner under our system could not "enjoy the unrestricted access to legal advice which was available to the ordinary citizen who was not in prison. What was essential was that the prisoner should have the opportunity for private communication with his lawyer."

Lord Caplan rejected Leech's case.

## Student questioned on shooting

Detectives investigating IRA shootings in Staffordshire were last night still holding one of four students who were detained for questioning under the Prevention of Terrorism Act two days ago.

The four students from the Staffordshire polytechnic in Stafford who were held on Thursday included a man, aged 22, with an address in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. Three were released yesterday without charge.

The four had been detained during enquiries into the IRA shooting of Sir Peter Terry, the former governor of Gibraltar, who was seriously hurt in an attack at his home in Milford, near Stafford.

## Strike action by lecturers

MEMBERS of the largest lecturers' union in polytechnics and colleges of higher education are to stage a series of lightning strikes after rejecting a pay increase of 9.6 per cent. The first national half-day strike will take place on November 6.

In a national ballot conducted by the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, 90 per cent of voters rejected the pay offer and 73 per cent backed strike action.

## Trial delayed

The trial in Bangkok of Patricia Cahill, aged 17, who denies attempting to smuggle heroin, was delayed for the second time yesterday because police witnesses did not come to court. She and Karen Smith, aged 19, both from Birmingham, face the same charges, but are being tried separately. Karen Smith says she is innocent, but will plead guilty because "the courts are lenient with defendants who admit guilt."

## Body found

Police searching for two missing schoolboys found a boy's body in a water-filled quarry only 200 yards from their home in Newbold, near Rugby, Warwickshire, yesterday. Police were joined by more than 100 volunteers as they searched for Michael Wood, aged six, and Germaine Fraser, aged ten. The search began on Thursday night after the children's parents reported them missing.

## Chess draw

The sixth game of the world chess championship in New York between Gary Kasparov (white) and Anatoly Karpov (black) was declared drawn overnight without further play. Kasparov had sealed move 42 (Re8) and offered a draw, which Karpov accepted. Kasparov now leads by 3½ points to 2½.

Saturday review, page 61

## MP's transplant

Sir Michael McNair-Wilson, Conservative MP for Newbury, was yesterday recovering from a kidney transplant operation. Believed to be the first MP to have a kidney transplant, he nearly died from kidney failure in 1984.

By the way: The Virgin Atlantic Concorde is due to leave Heathrow at 10.00am on Saturday for New York. The flight will be the last of the season. The Concorde will be replaced by the Airbus A300-600 on the route from November 1st. The flight will be the last of the season. The Concorde will be replaced by the Airbus A300-600 on the route from November 1st.

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# Young witnesses tell Marsh jury of hooded figure

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

CHILDREN who saw a hooded figure waiting on a pavement in the dark minutes before the shooting of the boxing promoter Frank Warren decided to tell the jury that a hooded figure was seen.

The encounter was related at the Central Criminal Court yesterday where the former world boxing champion Terry Marsh, aged 32, is accused of attempting to murder Mr Warren, his former manager, on November 30 last year.

Bradley Parsons, aged 17, told of the encounter with the hooded man minutes before the shooting. He said: "I decided to go and speak to him. I got up close. He was wearing a green army-like jacket that was really long, just above the knees. I asked him the time. He said something, but I didn't hear him because

of the scarf. I couldn't understand him.

"He then pulled his right hand out of his pocket and showed me his watch. He was wearing black leather gloves and underneath the gloves was this ching-film you could see coming out of the gloves at the wrists.

The youngsters went away but decided to return to see if the man was still there. Bradley said: "He was still in the same place and I went up to him again. The others came with me this time. I asked him what he was waiting for. He said he was waiting for his mates. He was going to go down the club. I asked him his name. He just said Paul."

John Richardson, aged 14, told the court that he listened as his friend had the brief conversation with the man and added: "The man who I saw reminded me of someone."

"He reminded me of Terry Marsh. I had seen him in the Dosh at a swimming pool in Dagenham because he was there training to be a swimmer. We were at the pool together about one and a half hours. I spoke to him at the pool."

The boy, who said he had seen the boxer on television, added: "The man I had seen that night reminded me of Terry Marsh. It was the same sort of build and height. I am not sure about the voice, because when I saw him at the theatre it was behind a scarf so it was a bit muffled. But it was a local sort of voice."

Under cross-examination by Richard Ferguson, QC, for Mr Marsh, who denies the charge, John Richardson agreed that in a statement he made to police after the shooting he did not mention that the strange figure bore

any resemblance to the boxer. Earlier John Botos, a partner of Mr Warren in the London Arena complex, described how he heard a bang he took to be a car backfiring when he and Mr Warren arrived in their chauffeur-driven Bentley at the Broadway theatre. He heard another shot and saw Mr Warren clutching his side before he noticed a man in a mask holding a gun.

Mr Botos said: "It actually hadn't occurred to me Frank had been shot. He turned 180 degrees and started to run away, running alongside the Bentley and then in between it and a Jaguar in front. I saw him run on to the pavement which had a grassy bank next to it, and as he ran, he started to stumble and finally collapsed."

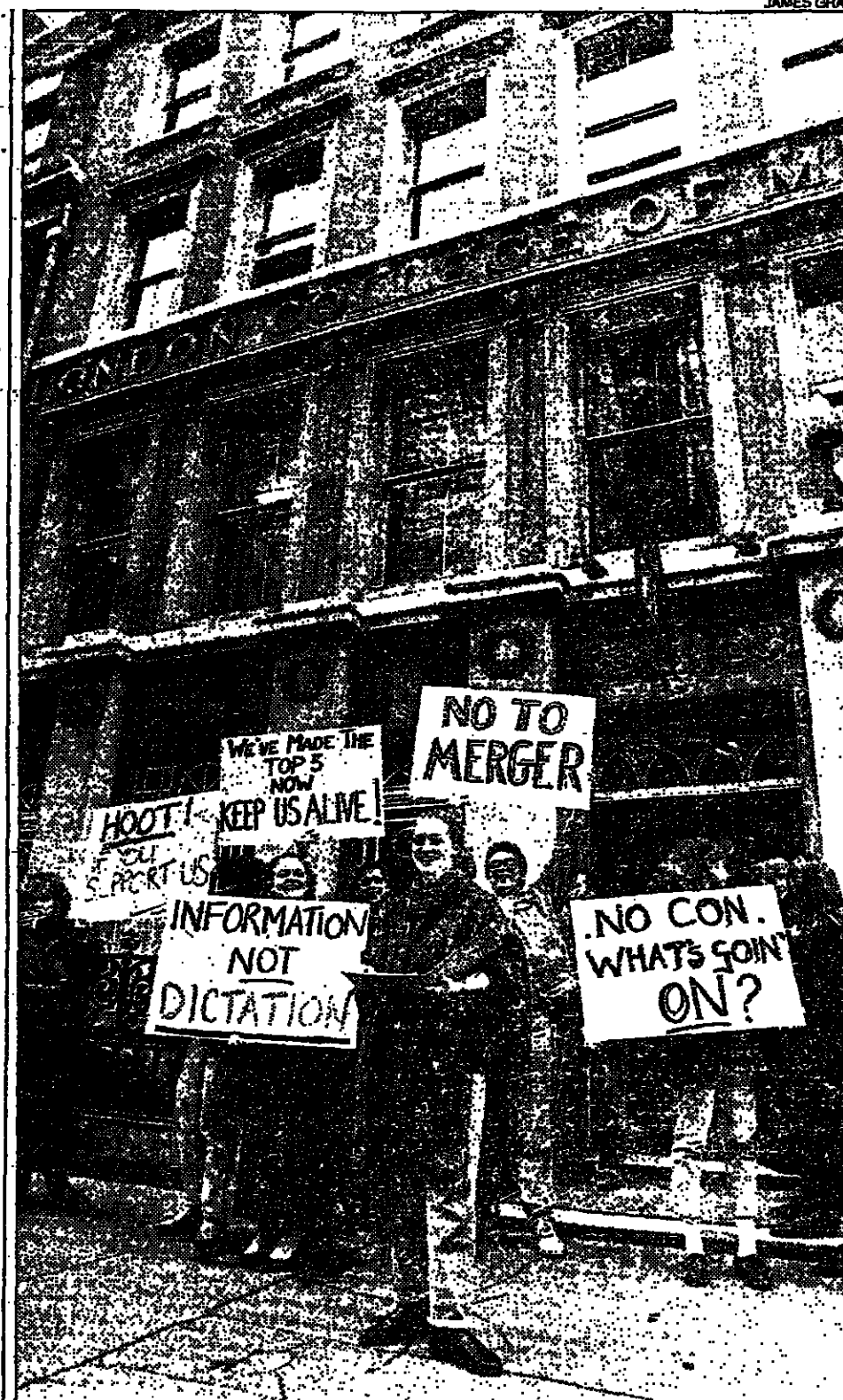
"As Frank started to run off, the gunman started to follow. I saw most clearly the gun which I supposed finally convinced me that Frank had in fact been shot."

"It seemed to me that the gunman was intent on shooting him again. I didn't want this to happen so I moved to intercept the gunman between the two cars, which is where we made contact."

"I pushed the gunman against the Jaguar and he then pushed me off and ran away. I particularly remember him running away, because he ran very fast and very athletically."

Asked if he could see the gunman's face after the two men had grappled with each other, Mr Botos said: "I simply put my head down and ran at the gunman. I was not trying to catch his identity. I was trying to stop the gunman killing Frank Warren."

The trial continues on Monday.



Note of discord: students demonstrating outside the London College of Music yesterday over merger plans with Ealing college of higher education, west London

## £1bn programme to build hospitals halted by slump

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE £1 billion-a-year National Health Service hospital building programme has been held up by the slump in the property market, a minister has disclosed.

About £200 million of the programme covering 450 schemes at various stages of development depends on regional health authorities selling off surplus land. Because of the slump, health regions in London and the South-East are having particular difficulty in raising enough money to proceed with their plans and are being forced to delay big projects.

The official admission that the health service would have to shoulder its share of the burden of the property slump came from Stephen Dorrell, a junior health minister. He was being badgered by a group of Tory MPs from Essex, who are furious over the decision by North-East Thames region to cancel plans costing £40 million to bring the Princess Alexandra hospital together on one site in Harlow.

Mr Dorrell told them: "It is unrealistic to expect the NHS investment programme to escape unscathed the implications of falling land values. That pressure applies right across the economy." It is understood that the late-night Commons debate earlier this week was followed by an angry meeting between the MPs, led by Jerry Hayes, MP for Harlow, at which they complained about the sudden postponement of big new hospital developments.

Cancellations such as Harlow's are bound to prove worrying to Conservative MPs in marginal seats. North-East Thames is among four Thames regions covering London and the South-East which have been forced to stop any new building schemes other than those already begun or for which contracts have been signed.

Mr Hayes pointed out that the Princess Alexandra project had been halted after the local health district had raised £20 million from a fiercely contested sale of a local hospital. He told the minister: "We want some money - and what is more, we want our money. Last night the health department was unable to say how many hospital schemes had been delayed."

## Christian links with Jews 'are ignored'

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

CHRISTIANS of all denominations have, at times, ignored their profound relationship with the Jewish people, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark says in a pastoral letter to be read at all masses tomorrow.

The Most Rev Michael Bowen, whose letter marks the 25th anniversary of the Vatican text *Nostra Aetate*, says that Christians must find practical ways to better understand the followers of all religions, and especially Jewish people. The death of Jesus is not to be blamed on Jewish people, he says. "The church places special emphasis on our relationship with the Jewish people. Jesus himself was a Jew."

## THE SUNDAY TIMES Reagan on the path to peace

"We sat down beside the blazing hearth, just the two of us and our interpreters and I told Gorbachev that he and I were in a unique position at a unique time: 'Here you and I are, probably the only two men in the world who could bring about World War III, by the same token, we may be the only two men who could perhaps bring about peace.'"

In *The Sunday Times* tomorrow, Ronald Reagan - in an extract from his autobiography - recalls his first meeting with the Soviet leader.

## Paris fashions a revival

"Paris fashion, at the spring collections, went against the prevailing timid mood and scaled heights of glamour that would have made Cecil B DeMille proud."

Tomorrow, *The Sunday Times* examines how Paris bounced back

## Behind closed palace doors

"King Edward VIII dubbed it the 'Auntie' because so many of his elderly relatives lived there."

In *The Sunday Times* tomorrow, Brian Hoey provides an inside look at Kensington Palace

## Mortgage fraudster jailed for six years

By ROBIN YOUNG

A FINANCIAL consultant was jailed for six years yesterday for his part in a web of conspiracies involving mortgage frauds worth £160 million.

Southwark Crown Court was told that Nasrullah Khan, aged 47, of Cambridge, a financial consultant and mortgage broker, had unlawfully obtained mortgages worth £1.38 million. Living on the proceeds of fraud he had bought a six-bedroom house, his three daughters were in private education and he drove a Mercedes.

Khan and an accomplice, Sarjit Sagoo, aged 53, a shopkeeper of Clapham, southwest London, obtained mortgages from building societies and other financial institutions by using fictitious names, and surveys which gave properties inflated values, the court was told.

Sagoo, who obtained mortgages worth £247,000, was jailed for two years and ordered to pay £5,000 costs. The two were the last in a succession of mortgage cheats to be sentenced following an investigation by the Serious Fraud Office. Four solicitors, five accountants, four surveyors and six mortgage brokers have been convicted in a series of court hearings which started in May last year.

Khan, who has three previous convictions for dishonesty, and Sagoo were both found guilty of plotting to obtain mortgages dishonestly. Khan had forged references, contracts, powers of attorney and affidavits to support bogus applications.

Judge Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, told him: "It has been very difficult to keep track of all the lies you told to one building society or another. There were so many of them. In the course of this major fraud you corrupted or used a number of other people in a quite ruthless manner."

## Probation officers make strike threat over pay

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PROBATION officers yesterday threatened national industrial action over a pay claim to compensate them for working nights and weekends.

A call for the 7,000 officers in England and Wales to be balloted on industrial action was unanimously endorsed by the National Association of Probation Officers' annual conference, which is being held in Brighton.

The conference was also told that there might be a militant reaction from officers over government plans to privatise a remand centre, and to the Home Office's refusal to substantially increase staffing levels in probation hospitals.

John Roberts, chairman of the association, said officers were working an average of 42½ hours a week, five hours more than they should, and did not get paid overtime. Strike action by probation officers would delay many court proceedings and could mean the withdrawal of supervision of offenders serving community punishments. The delegates agreed to oppose the

government's decision to invite private firms to tender for the management of Everthorpe, remand centre on Humberside. Proposing the motion, Peter Wright, of the Humberside Probation Service, said the move was an "outrage". "It doesn't need the Corrections Corporation of America or Securix to provide proper toilet facilities in prisons or proper regimes for remand prisoners who may be locked up for 23 hours a day," he said.

The 900 delegates also urged the department to ensure that every probation hostel should have a minimum of two officers on duty, and called for anti-sexism training for all staff.

Women probation officers working in prisons said they were the butt of sexually explicit comments and jokes, and were "touched up" by colleagues. Jackie Hutchinson, a probation officer at Ford open prison, near Arundel, West Sussex, said: "An atmosphere of oppression prevails where power is all

made in an extremely macho way." She added: "In prisons, reality is skewed, emotions and behaviour tend to be exaggerated and heightened. Macho behaviour is the norm, and constitutes the power base."

Ms Hutchinson said: "Sexism operates in overt and covert ways, manifesting itself in language and behaviour which operates daily, and on all levels, coming from prison officers, inmates and colleagues."

Tony Mercer, a South Yorkshire probation officer on secondment to Lindholme prison, Doncaster, said that some male probation officers were openly sexist towards female colleagues.

The conference also urged that women probation officers should only work in male prisons by consent, and that they should be able to leave without damaging their careers. Napo should provide support and advice to women members who were victims of sexual harassment and sexism in prisons.

## Market town split over Coke plant

By CRAIG SETON

PLANS by Coca-Cola to build a canning and bottling plant outside Banbury, north Oxfordshire, has divided residents and councillors in the market town.

Coca-Cola Schweppes is facing opposition to its attempts to get planning permission for a £150 million factory on a site north of the town and close to the M40 extension from Oxford to Birmingham, which is nearing completion. The plant will produce soft drinks and cans would be made on the site.

The application has split the Conservative-led Cherwell district council. A decision of a planning referrals committee to reject the Coca-Cola plan is to be considered at a full meeting of the authority's 52 members on Monday after 19 councillors, Conservative and Labour, signed a motion calling for it to be reversed.

Supporters of the proposed one million square feet development claim that its rejection will deny significant economic benefits and up to 650 jobs to the market town of 40,000 people. Opponents have alleged that it would increase heavy traffic and create a potential risk of air pollution from a process to paint drink cans.

The company said yesterday it wanted the new site to supply the market for soft drinks in southern England and insisted that fears of opponents were groundless. If it is denied permission to build in Banbury, it is widely expected that it will go to Northampton, where it has planning permission on an alternative site.

Patrick Burke, Cherwell council's assistant chief planner, said that 60 of the 80 acres of the proposed site was an area of high landscape value. A grade two listed farmhouse and the remains of a medieval village, which Coca-Cola had

offered to excavate, would be affected by the development, which would also lead to an estimated 1,700 heavy vehicle movements a day.

Roger Croft, the chairman of the planning committee, who wants the development to go ahead, said: "The plant would have no effect on the centre of Banbury. We have the local and the national economy to consider." Peter Reddy, chairman of an action group formed to oppose the plan, said: "The problem is not in making the soft drinks, it is the canning plant that comes with it. The cans have to be coated with a lacquer and we are worried about air pollution."

If the full council rejects the Coca-Cola application, the company may appeal to Chris Patten, the environment secretary.

## Scientists in cold fusion dispute

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A DISPUTE has broken out between two scientists who claim to have discovered an inexhaustible source of energy and the state of Utah, which has spent \$5 million (£2.6 million) supporting their work.

Stanley Pons, of Utah university, and Martin Fleischmann, of Southampton university, the inventors of cold fusion, failed to attend a meeting this week in Salt Lake City to review their work and determine whether to continue supporting it. There were reports that both men had gone to ground.

Professor Fleischmann said yesterday that he had not been told about the meeting and that "everybody in Utah" knew where he was and how to get in touch with him. "If I am asked to go back, I will travel," he said.

He would be happy to discuss his work with the four-member review panel set up by the state of Utah. "The only limitation is that our work is the subject of patent applications and that limits what we can say about it," he said.

Officials of Utah university and the National Cold Fusion Institute in Salt Lake City told the *New York Times* last week that they could not find either of the two scientists.

Fritz Will, director of the institute where the two are employed, said that there had been a breakdown in communication and it had become clear that the two doctors "in contrast to their repeated declarations, are unwilling to

co-operate with the institute or the state committee in participating in any useful review of their work."

In March last year Professor Pons and Professor Fleischmann said they had found a way of fusing light atoms in a test tube to provide enormous amounts of energy. The claim created much excitement until it became clear that other scientists could not duplicate it, and today few scientists believe in it.

Professor Fleischmann said yesterday that he and his colleague were completely

confident about the science. "It's unbelievable that people should still question this work," he denied reports that Professor Pons had disappeared from Salt Lake City leaving no forwarding address. "They know perfectly well how to get in touch with him," he said.

The point of contact with both scientists is through Garry Triggs, their American lawyer, who said last week that Professor Pons had asked for a year's sabbatical from the university to work on the project.



Fleischmann: "Everyone knows where I am"

## Frozen passport to a kind of eternity

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TWO hundred years from now, Alan Sinclair expects to be out and about shopping, visiting the cinema and drinking in his local public house with his wife and eldest son.

He has joined delegates and scientists from across Europe and the United States for the first European Cryonics Conference which opens today at Garwick. They will discuss topics such as the legal status of being frozen before clinical death and techniques to preserve tissue without damaging ice-crystal formation. Being frozen while healthy, they believe, could increase chances of a successful resurrection.

A fit-looking computer engineer, aged 52, from near Eastbourne, Mr Sinclair has put £300,000 towards estab-

lishing a freezing facility near Garwick, which he believes will be a passport to a kind of eternity. When the doctors pronounce Mr Sinclair clinically dead, he will be sent to Garwick where his corpse will be pumped with preservative fluids and frozen in liquid nitrogen. Some 24 hours later, his body will be in the Alcor Life Extension Foundation based in Riverside, California, after a flight in a specially designed cabinet.

When medical science and technology has advanced sufficiently he believes that he and his family will be brought back to life.

"It is a gamble but I believe a realistic one," Mr Sinclair said. "I do not think there is much choice. There will come a time when medicine will be

able to do nothing and once you are buried or cremated, that's it."

Before approaching insurance agents for a policy to cover the \$120,000 needed for a whole body freeze, Mr Sinclair consulted three British doctors on issues of clinical death and the preservation procedures used by American organisations offering eternity services, Alcor, Trans Time and the Cryonics Institute.

Mr Sinclair said: "They all felt it was futuristic but believed it may have a chance. When I contacted the local coroner I expected a laughing bag but he had heard of cryonics and had been expecting it to come here. He said there was no law against it."

Mike Darwin, director of research at Alcor, said that the

increasing interest in Europe and the more relaxed laws in Britain, make it likely that European members will be created at Garwick by the turn of the century rather than in California. He talks of the service being more an orthodox method of patient care capable of cutting hospital waiting lists.

Mr Sinclair has opted for a whole body freeze because "I liked the idea of being a good looking corpse" but many of the 190 United States and some of the 12 British members who have signed-up, have chosen to have their heads frozen for just \$45,000.

They believe that emerging technologies will be able to mend damaged cells and clone back the person's body from brain cells.

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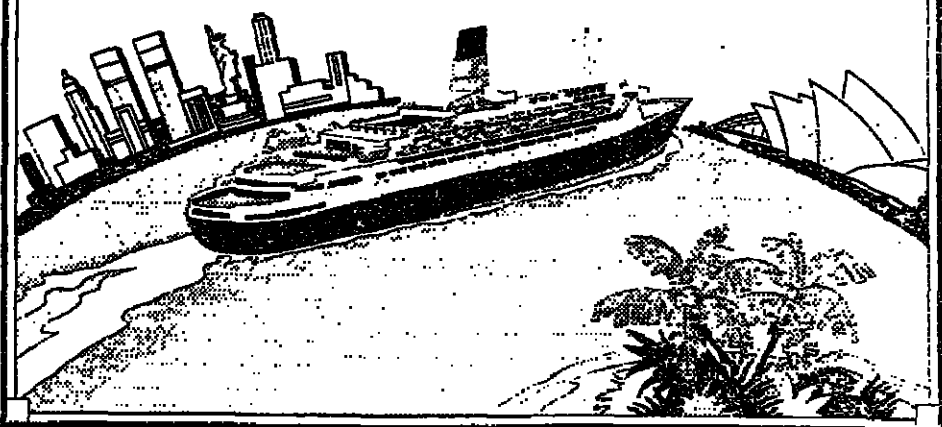
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# Dorchester to open its doors after £100m refurbishment

ANY day now John West, doorman at the Dorchester, will be back on duty, replacing security men who have guarded the hotel through its two-year closure for refurbishment. The drifts of gold leaf whirling in dusty corners are a sign that the hotel's ordeal by builders is almost over. The gilders are the last craftsmen on a flow chart of works that have stripped the place down to the buff.

Yesterday the Duke of Edinburgh marked the re-opening by unveiling a plaque commemorating his stag night held there in November 1947.

Refitting the hotel is taking longer than the 18 months it took "Concrete Bob" McAlpine to put it up in 1931. Newspaper headlines repeated his claim that it was a building that neither bombs nor earthquakes could destroy.

When war came, the Dorchester became the smartest air-raid shelter in London. General Eisenhower and several members of the British cabinet made it their domestic headquarters in the capital.

Soon the fountain will twinkle in the front garden and Mr West, wearing a dark green uniform coat with green and yellow striped waistcoat, will hand the first guests up the steps and in to a foyer unchanged, if fresh

As the most bomb-proof hotel in London prepares to reopen, Shona Crawford Poole looks behind the glitter and bows.

paint and bright new gilding are discounted. The expanse of gilded promenade through the centre of the hotel, is also as it was. Little has been done to alter the appearance of other public rooms.

Restoration of the rooms created as fantasy interiors to dispel post-war gloom by Oliver Messel, the theatrical designer, has been done with reference to his original designs. Lord Snowden, his nephew, inherited many of the drawings, and John Claridge, one of his assistants on the project, had kept the colour swatches.

Those searching for novelty will find a few additions such as a pair of antique marble hand-basins in the ladies room, remarkable for their loveliness and their cost, at £16,000 each.

All the glamorous front-of-the-house buffing is the icing on this vast refurbishment project. Before the builder, Sir Robert McAlpine, contractor to the

Sultan of Brunei, the present owner, could send his men in, the removers had to take the furniture out.

In went an army of workmen, radios blaring, dust churning. Miles of protective sheeting were taped to painted pillars.

The Dorchester's taps had been a dripping trial to the management for 20 years although the plumbing had been the last word in modernity in 1931. Out it came and in went pale marble bathrooms fitted with what may well be the biggest, deepest, baths in London.

Most of the suites and bedrooms have been refurbished in English country house style with four-poster beds and chintz. Triple glazed windows can be opened to offer a choice of fresh air or silence. There are also some bedrooms furnished along clean 1930s lines which I find particularly attractive.

By the time the bill comes in the building will have swallowed 50km of piping, 20km of cornice, 10,000 rolls of wallpaper, 50,000 sheets of gold leaf, 850 diamanté bows to decorate the ballroom mirrors, and 249 of those baths.

When the bill comes in it will be for about £100 million, plus a penalty payment for the six-month over-run on the building contract.



Grandeur and glamour: the Duke of Edinburgh after unveiling a plaque at the newly refurbished Dorchester hotel in Park Lane, London. Top right, the bedrooms freshly painted and refitted and, below right, marble hand-basins remove the plumbing trials of 20 years



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## Defiant Lords face clash on broadcast bill

By JOHN LEWIS

IN A rare display of defiance, the Lords is to challenge the government over its refusal to force the new commercial television companies to include documentaries and education and social action programmes in their schedules.

Baroness David, the Labour peeress, with the support of crossbenchers, is putting down the new amendment to the broadcasting bill, due to be heard on Tuesday, which would write into the legislation a requirement that the new Channel 3 television companies must carry these distinct types of programmes. Broadcasters and many organisations are worried that with the introduction of a more competitive regime in commercial television, expensive documentaries, education and social action programmes will be the first to go.

The new amendment will be almost identical to the one from the Lords struck from the bill in the Commons earlier this week.

Government business managers assumed that after this week's clear rejection by MPs, peers would follow normal practice and accept the change as a formality. Baroness David has decided otherwise.

If her amendment is carried it will return, with the bill, to the Commons again, putting

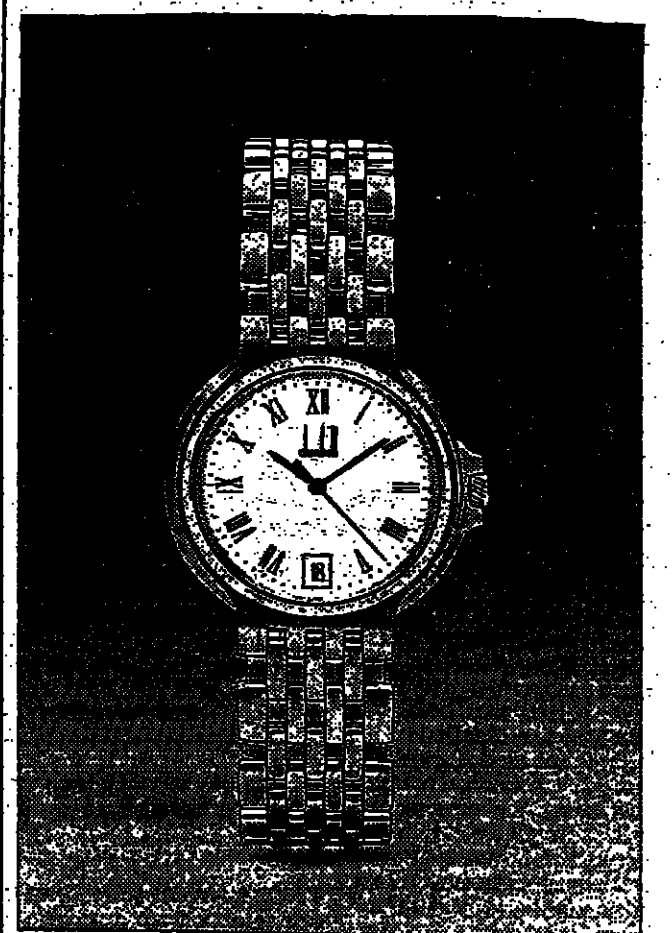
at risk the government's entire timetable, and Commons prorogation planned for next Thursday.

Baroness David said yesterday that there was strong feeling about this issue. A delegation which met Mrs Thatcher last week was supported by more than 30 organisations, including the United Nations Association, Community Service Volunteers, Age Concern, the National Children's Homes and national bodies for the deaf and blind.

"There is no question of privilege in what we are doing and I think we are quite justified in acting the way we are," Baroness David said. "We hope the government will accept our proposals, particularly as it is running out of time."

The only change in the new amendment is that it will ask for the types of programmes to be scheduled by Channel 3 companies and not Channel 3 and 5 franchise holders.

David Mellor, the arts minister, who is responsible for the bill, said last night in a Commons's written answer that he had received 120 representations from members of the public or organisations urging the government not to reverse the Lords amendments.



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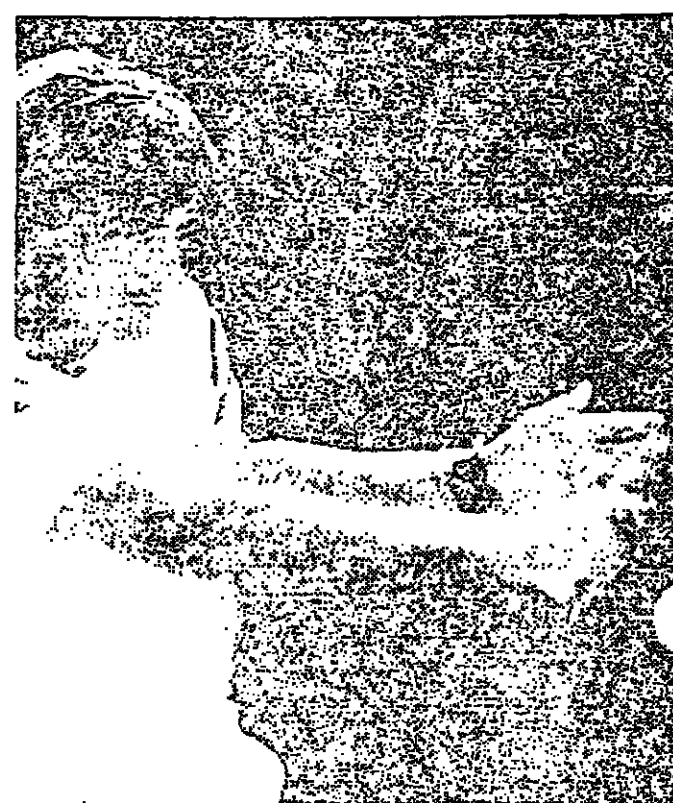
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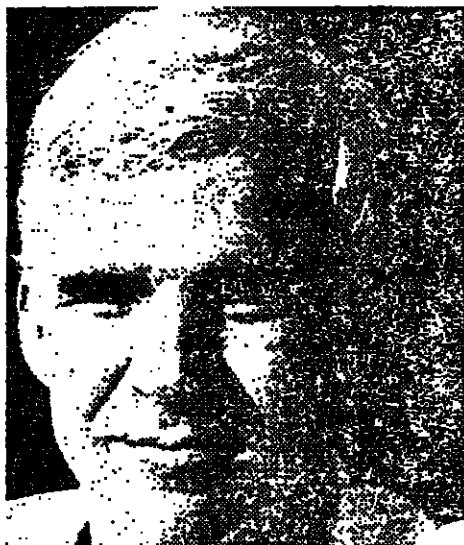
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# Plaid Cymru pledges to continue poll tax battle

WELSH nationalists voted yesterday to continue their campaign against the poll tax and attacked Labour-controlled councils for sending in bailiffs to the homes of defaulters.

Delegates at Plaid Cymru's annual conference in Cardiff were told that Labour had betrayed the Welsh people. Laura McAllister, a member of the party's national executive, said that Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, had aided and abetted the prime minister. "It is his councils, his councillors that have done more to implement the imposition of the poll tax than if Margaret Thatcher had signed the court summonses herself," she said.

"It is a shameful act of betrayal from this party that pretends to speak for the people of Wales."

She said that 31 of the 38 MPs in Wales opposed the tax, which had been rejected by 75 per cent of Welsh voters.

Delegates gave a standing ovation to the Scottish MP Dick Douglas who left the Labour party to join the Scottish National party over Labour's stand on the poll tax.

He accused Mr Kinnock of duplicity in not backing those Scottish MPs in his party who refused to pay their poll tax.

"Voters in Scotland and Wales will not be let down in any way by looking to the SNP and Plaid Cymru for political leadership," Mr Douglas said. He forecast that widespread discontent at Labour's performance in opposing the tax would lead to heavy nationalist gains at the next election.

Geraint Davies, a Plaid Cymru councillor in Rhondda Valley, had deliberately selected him as a target by sending bailiffs to his house less than four hours after a liability order was obtained against him. "The Tories may have imposed the law but it was the Labour party who carried it to its evil extreme."

Dafydd Thomas, the Plaid Cymru president, called for a peaceful solution to the Gulf confrontation in a speech to the conference. The MP for Meirionnydd Nant Conwy said that international sanctions against Iraq should be given longer to work.

The thoughts of everyone had to be with hostages, families and forces in the Gulf zone, many of whom were from Wales. Referring to the Argentine bombing of the Sir Galahad, in which the Welsh Guards suffered the heaviest casualties of the Falklands war, Mr Thomas said: "Our duty is to work to ensure a peaceful resolution of this new crisis, so no more families in Wales or elsewhere will have to suffer grief and loss."

Mr Thomas said: "Our duty is to work to ensure a peaceful resolution of this new crisis, so no more families in Wales or elsewhere will have to suffer grief and loss." Gwynedd county council is to discuss a notice of motion critical of an article in *The Times* on August 30 by Bernard Levin which it is suggested was "offensive towards the Welsh language".

Leading article, page 13

## MP faces summons for not paying

By RAY CLANCY

A LABOUR MP and his wife have been summoned for not paying a £394 community charge, it was disclosed last night. Dave Nellist, MP for Coventry South East, and his wife, Jane, will appear before magistrates on Monday.

Mr Nellist said: "We shall determine whether the council has carried out every step of the process properly. If I lose then the council will try to get it out of my wages or send the bailiffs in. If both these moves fail then they will consider prison."

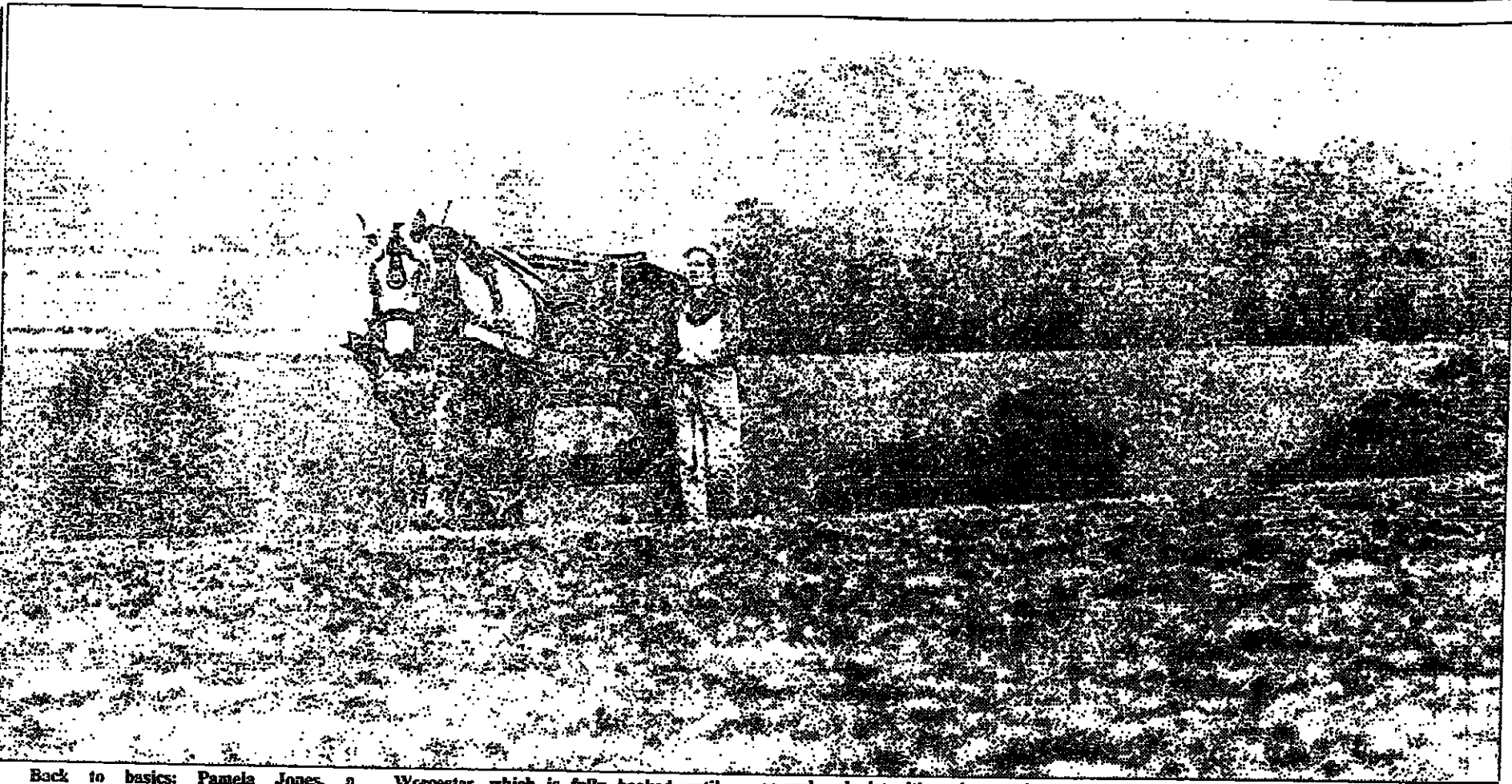
"Jane and I live on a skilled workers' wage not the inflated MPs salary, so the poll tax hits us like any ordinary family." He added that he would not be paying the poll tax in Wansworth either where he lives when Parliament is in session.

An MP's basic salary is just under £27,000 but he or she can claim several staff allowances. Mr Nellist said he accepted just £220 a week and donated the rest to the Labour movement.

Two magistrates resigned yesterday over the poll tax. Lynn Harrington, a JP on the Bath and Wansdyke bench and a Labour councillor, said she did not want to punish those who had failed to pay.

In Stamford, Lincolnshire, Dianne Smith, a magistrate for 14 years, said she could not handle cases involving poll tax non-payers.

About 200 people demonstrated outside a magistrates' court in Bristol yesterday in protest at 2,300 summonses issued against the poll tax. Three people were arrested when scuffles broke out as protesters tried to get into the courtroom.



Back to basics: Pamela Jones, a smallholder from Rhosgoch, Powys, learning to control a heavy horse, once a stalwart of British farming which may be making a comeback.

She is one of six students on a course in handling heavy horse at the Holme Lacy agricultural college in Hereford and

Worcester, which is fully booked until February as interest in using them in small woodlands grows (Craig Seton writes).

Two of the other students on the most recent five-day course at Holme Lacy are former farmworkers who had been in charge of heavy horses many years ago and wanted to work with them again. One was

an archaeologist with an interest in early horsemanship, and two simply wanted to learn how to use the animals in forestry.

The students learn to handle heavy horses on the college's 650-acre estate. Iain Hitchison, the course co-ordinator, said using mechanised means in woodlands was too expensive, while a heavy

horse and tack would cost £3,000 and £25 a week to maintain.

He added: "A tractor can cost £20,000 and might be worn out after five years, but you could expect 20 years' work from a good horse." He said the course was the only one recognised by the joint national committee of heavy horse breeds societies.

## Audit office finds £170m error in benefit payments

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

MORE than £170 million was wrongly paid to benefit claimants because of official errors last year, according to the National Audit Office. Some people received more money than they should have had, others got less.

The high level of errors means that John Bourn, the comptroller and auditor general, has decided to qualify the social security department's 1989-90 accounts on income support for the unemployed, and family credit.

The audit office's study of the accounts showed that nearly a quarter of the family credit cases and 14.4 per cent of the income support cases contained errors. The report, published yesterday, showed income support overpayments of almost £88 million and underpayments of £57 million. Another £20 million

had been overpaid for family credit and nearly £6 million underpaid.

Mr Bourn blamed the income support mistakes on local social security offices miscalculating entitlement and on the employment department's failure to stop income support payments to claimants no longer assessed as unemployed.

The family credit mistakes were due to the department's failure to get enough evidence on the claimants' earnings, Mr Bourn said. "Other over- or underpayments were due to a variety of clerical mistakes by staff calculating awards."

The social security department said claimants who were underpaid would receive their full entitlement, although those given too much money would not be required to pay it back. The department would

examine the report and monitor the situation.

The Child Poverty Action Group said that an underpayment, however small, would have serious consequences for individual claimants, leaving them to cope on an income below the poverty line. "The new social security system was intended to be simpler to administer but this error level shows that the intrinsic problems of means-testing continue."

Michael Meacher, Labour's social security spokesman, said: "These unacceptably high error rates clearly expose how serious is the disarray in the government's social security system." The errors reflected in part the plummeting morale in social security offices. "Staff are undertrained, underpaid and overworked."

## Study on plight of homeless

By RAY CLANCY

THE children of homeless families living in dingy and overcrowded lodgings are condemned to a cycle of deprivation, according to a report to be published next week.

The welfare of at least 9,000 children in bed-and-breakfast hotels in London is at risk and more help is needed from the government, the report from the all-party London Boroughs Association says.

Many bed-and-breakfast hotels are overcrowded and have poor furnishings, inadequate washing facilities, and hazards such as unsafe windows, gas rings and electrical appliances. They are often unhygienic allowing diseases to spread easily.

Having to move frequently affects education and health, and homeless families are more vulnerable to crime, the report says. "Belongings disappear, including children's toys. Hotels are not the safest of places because families are vulnerable to intruders. In one

of the nastier cases a six-year-old girl was raped."

It says that children living in the hotels become withdrawn and disruptive. Competition for school places is such that some children simply fail to attend.

Councils have shown flexibility and initiative in tackling homelessness, but more money is needed with a

greater share going to the authorities with the most homeless families. The report says that the extra £250 million provided recently by the government is not enough.

*A Cry of Shame - the Child Victims of Homelessness* (London Boroughs Association, 23 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB; £10)

Letters, page 13

## Few managers opt to retire at 65

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

EMPLOYERS who complain that the demographic time bomb of declining school leavers will strip them of skills to compete in world markets received a boost yesterday from a survey which shows that most company managers do not want to retire on their 65th birthday.

The survey, by Peat Marwick Management Consultants and the Institute of Personnel Management, says that instead of a sudden cut off from working life managers would like to move gradually towards retirement over the preceding ten years.

Peat Marwick also found, in its survey of 2,787 managers between the ages of 40 and 55, that only 14 per cent really wanted to retire between the ages of 61 and 65 compared to nearly 70 per cent who would like to retire between the ages of 51 and 60.

Four out of ten respondents wanted to work part time for their employer after retirement while 87 per cent wanted to continue some work-related activity.

Jacqui Lewis, the Peat Marwick human resources consultant, said: "A retirement decade could include a

balance of activities such as charity work, secondments, career placements with other organisations and coaching. Although there was a strong desire for career development among these mature managers, 45 per cent of respondents could not recall having had any personal development opportunities in the last five years."

"I believe this is an issue that companies should make the most of especially as the demographic dip takes effect through the 1990s."

The survey, released at the Institute of Personnel Management conference in Harrogate, also showed that 36 per cent of the managers felt sure their companies operated an age barrier for internal promotions. Women believed the barrier occurred at 40 while men thought it operated between 50 and 55.

The survey says many employers are failing to motivate older managers through flexible salary structures. An overwhelming 72 per cent said their organisation used pay ceilings for job grades and 27 per cent said they knew they had reached the top of their grade.

## Business struggling to bridge cultural divide

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Japanese understand each other only about 85 per cent of the time, Germans keep their working and family lives separate and the Dutch are almost American-like in their attitudes.

These are just some of the cultural differences with which managers now have to grapple in Europe and the Far East, the Institute of Personnel Management was told yesterday at its conference in Harrogate.

David Wrigglesworth, president of DCW Research Associates in California, said managers in Britain and elsewhere were recognising that their national perceptions, values and modes of conduct-

ing business in the international arena could have a negative impact.

There was a sharp difference, he said, between low-context cultures, such as the English-speaking countries, Scandinavia and Germany, which relied on words, while high-context cultures in the rest of the world communicated by not stating things.

He said that because people looked racially similar it did not mean that there would not be cultural problems. Body language was not the same in all cultures and some gestures might have different, even obscene connotations in different countries.

Business people, he advised,

should speak slowly to a non-native speaker of English, should avoid big words and should not mistake a courteous answer for the truth. "In Japan there are 16 ways to avoid saying no." People should not be trusted just because they spoke English and their competence did not depend on their ability to speak English.

Dr Wrigglesworth said that some languages were inherently vague. "Japanese is such a vague language that they only fully understand each other about 85 per cent of the time."

He described EuroMan, a figure with a blend of national EC member characteristics,

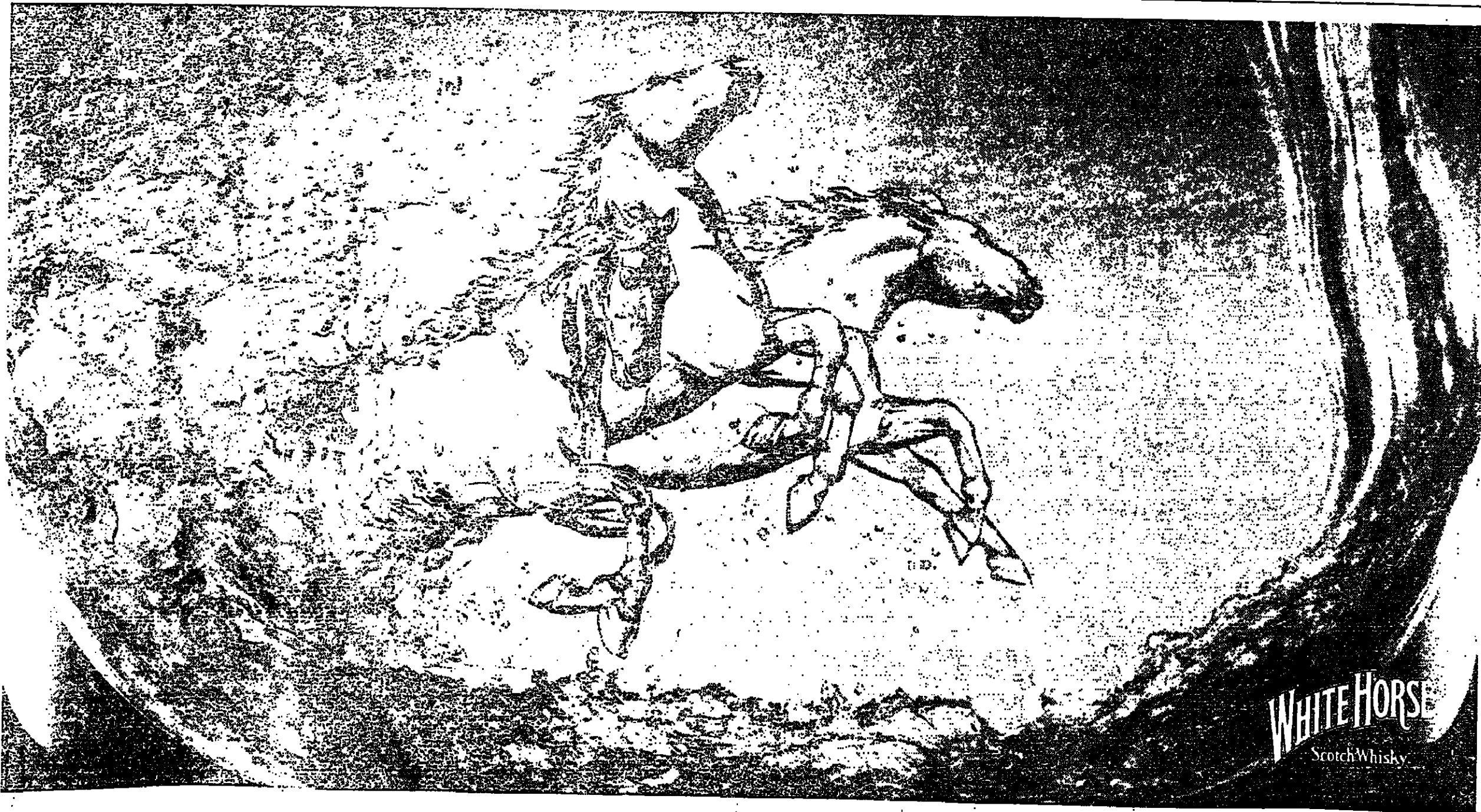
with a German head for managing the EC's inflation policy, an Irish mouth to blarney EC money for farmers, a Dutch finger for putting into a dyke to fight off Japanese imports, and an English stiff upper lip to fight off the EC's socialist tendencies.

Roy Davidson, of the American transport company United Parcel Service, talked of general cultural characteristics across Europe when recruiting people.

Germans, he said, considered their leisure time very important. "Although they may be known as a hard-working population with a high sense of duty they are not

willing to sacrifice their free time for the firm." Italians placed the importance of their family life over their job while Dutch managers did not consider work to be isolated from the rest of their lives. Instead they had an almost American concept of blending work and personal life.

A call was made to the conference for the introduction of preventative medicine techniques at places of work. There was a warning that managerial levels of stress would be even higher in the 90s than the 80s as a result of 1992 European links, change in eastern Europe and the emergence of Pacific rim nations.





# Ten years of boom that yielded London's hidden past

One hundred archaeologists are out of work after unearthing the capital's Roman links. John Young finds out what they had discovered

THE announcement yesterday that more than 100 archaeologists are to be made redundant by the Museum of London marks the end, at least for the time being, of an extraordinary decade of excavation in the capital.

The museum's board of governors said: "The acute downturn in property development in London has had severe effects on archaeology. This is because archaeological excavations are primarily funded by the site developer rather than central or local government."

"The result of this is that, when developers' funds cease due to economic recession, there is not the basic funding to continue archaeological advice and research. The museum is already severely constrained by government cash limits on its public programmes, curatorial and technical work."

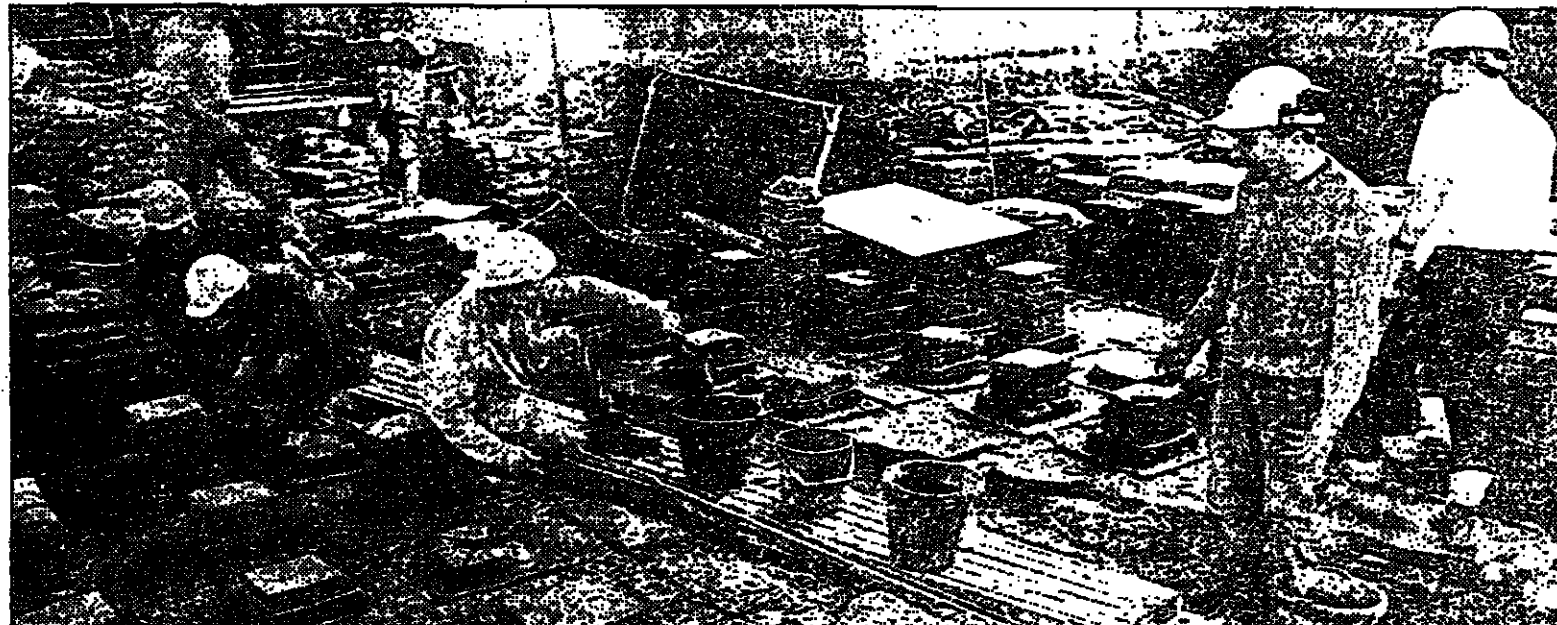
"Consequently it does not have the financial resources to continue to pay archaeologists who are not being paid for by developers or central funds."

The property boom that gathered pace in the early

1980s and during which developers have poured millions of pounds into the search for London's past has come almost to a halt. As a result Max Hebditch, the museum's director, estimates that from £8 million in 1989-90 and £6 million in the current year, his archaeological budget will be less than £2 million in the next financial year.

Inevitably archaeologists feel bitter at the lack of government support and at their dependence on the ups and downs of the commercial property market. However, it is certain that no government would have been able to match the funding that made possible the amount of excavation, discovery and recording in the good years.

For a long time the opportunities presented by the post-war rebuilding of London were scarcely recognised. Some excavations took place on bombed sites after the second world war, but during the 60s the amount spent was pathetically low; during the development of the now notori-



Hot spot: the Museum of London dig off Upper Thames Street that revealed the underfloor heating system for the Roman baths

ous Paternoster Square close to St Paul's, when the precursor of the environment department was responsible for archaeology, virtually no effort was made to uncover the site's hidden past.

It was the excavation of the Baynards Castle site at Blackfriars in 1972 that sparked a new wave of interest. Three years later Mr Hebditch, until then director of the Guildhall Museum in

the City, established the department of urban archaeology with support from the City of London and the environment department.

Over the following years he was able to forge agreements with developers whereby it became almost standard practice for time and money to be made available for rescue archaeology. Among the most important discoveries in the

City he rates the uncovering of a series of quaysides dating from Roman times to the medieval times at Billingsgate and the unearthing of the Roman basilica at Leadenhall.

In 1983 the museum became involved in excavation outside the City limits and took over the work of a number of independent units that had been under the aegis of the Greater London Coun-

cil. Important discoveries included those of a Roman timber warehouse on the site of the former Courage Brewery in Southwark and most recently the remains of the Shakespearean Rose and Globe theatres.

To describe 1990 as the end of an era would, Mr Hebditch says, be unreasonably pessimistic. Archaeological staff at the museum will be down next year to

about 120 or 130, compared with 450 in the department's heyday. Although he disclaims any ability to forecast the future of the property market, he is confident there will be a recovery.

A promised £5 million in the pipeline from projects for which no starting date has been set and which, for reasons of commercial confidence, he cannot name. There is also the prospect of

funding from new public sector projects such as extensions to the Underground rail network.

Archaeology in London has fared better than in other parts of the country because of the huge development values of sites in the capital. Until recently, moreover, economic development was heavily concentrated in London and the South-East.

The archaeological needs of cities such as York might be relatively just as great, he pointed out, but on the other hand the York Archaeological Trust had the benefit of revenue from the highly successful Jarvik Viking Museum. The Museum of London was free to the public and did not generate any commercial revenues.

Will there come a time when the developers have finished tearing down and rebuilding London and there are no more sites left to excavate?

Mr Hebditch smiled. "There was a time when I thought every site would be redeveloped by the year 2000 and that archaeology would become an indoor sport," he said. But already post-war buildings were being torn down and replaced.

"If and when the new proposals for the area around St Paul's are given the go-ahead, that will really be something."

## 'No contempt' in Lockerbie story

By KERRY GILL

THE editor of the *Sunday Telegraph* and a journalist were cleared of contempt of court yesterday by John Mowat, the Sheriff Principal, who is presiding over the judicial enquiry into the 270 deaths caused by the Lockerbie air disaster in December 1988.

Trevor Grove, the newspaper's editor, and Toby Helm were ordered to appear before the enquiry in Dumfries after the Sheriff Principal ruled that there appeared to be a *prima facie* contempt after

publication of an article in Sunday's edition of the *Sunday Telegraph*. Although Mr Grove and Mr Helm were cleared by the court of contempt, solicitors and counsel acting for the families of the British victims of the bombing said that they were considering bringing an action alleging defamation.

John Mitchell, QC, for Mr Grove and Mr Helm, said that the Lord Advocate had been somewhat baffled about the article because it made a complaint about aviation experts not being called to give evidence, when the chapter on Heathrow security had not even begun. "The article on the face of it appears to be premature," he said.

Mr Mitchell added that a relative of one of the deceased victims had expressed concern to Mr Helm that it appeared the enquiry was not going to consider Heathrow security in depth. Referring to alleged innuendo about legal costs, he said that no innuendo had been intended. "I can only say that, if these references were read in the way suggested, I have authority to unreservedly apologise for any distress caused."

● Airport workers at Heathrow could have had access to the baggage container that held the Samsonite suitcase in which the Lockerbie bomb was placed, the judicial enquiry into the disaster was told yesterday.

John Bedford, a luggage loader at Heathrow, said that it would have been possible for any worker to put cases into the container before it was left at a supervisor's office. Mr Bedford told the enquiry that he loaded cases into baggage containers from Pan Am feeder flights.

He was asked by Andrew Hardie, QC, for the Crown, whether he could remember a bronze Samsonite case supposed to have been placed on flight 103. Mr Bedford did.

He said that, as far as he knew, only he and a security guard had put cases into the baggage container. Mr Bedford had not heard of any bomb or terrorist warnings before the disaster.

The enquiry continues on Monday.

## Airlines face bleak future

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE spectre of 1973 will loom over 200 leaders of the world's airlines tomorrow as they gather in Geneva for their annual general meeting.

All the ingredients for a repeat of the crash that saw many forced out of business, small operators swallowed by their big competitors, and fast declining passenger numbers are again casting a cloud over the members of the International Air Transport Association.

Profits being made by the 200 members had already been cut to the bone even before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait and sent oil prices soaring. Now they will hear that in spite of carrying 726 million passengers and more than 12 million tons of air freight, the total profit the airlines managed to make last year was about £150 million — an average of well under £1 million for each airline.

This return means that any lingering hopes of a fall in air fares will be in vain. Before the Gulf confrontation, high interest charges, spiralling labour costs, and increased security and navigation charges had hit the airlines badly. Prospects are worse with a 142 per cent increase in fuel prices, higher interest rates and changes in currency values.

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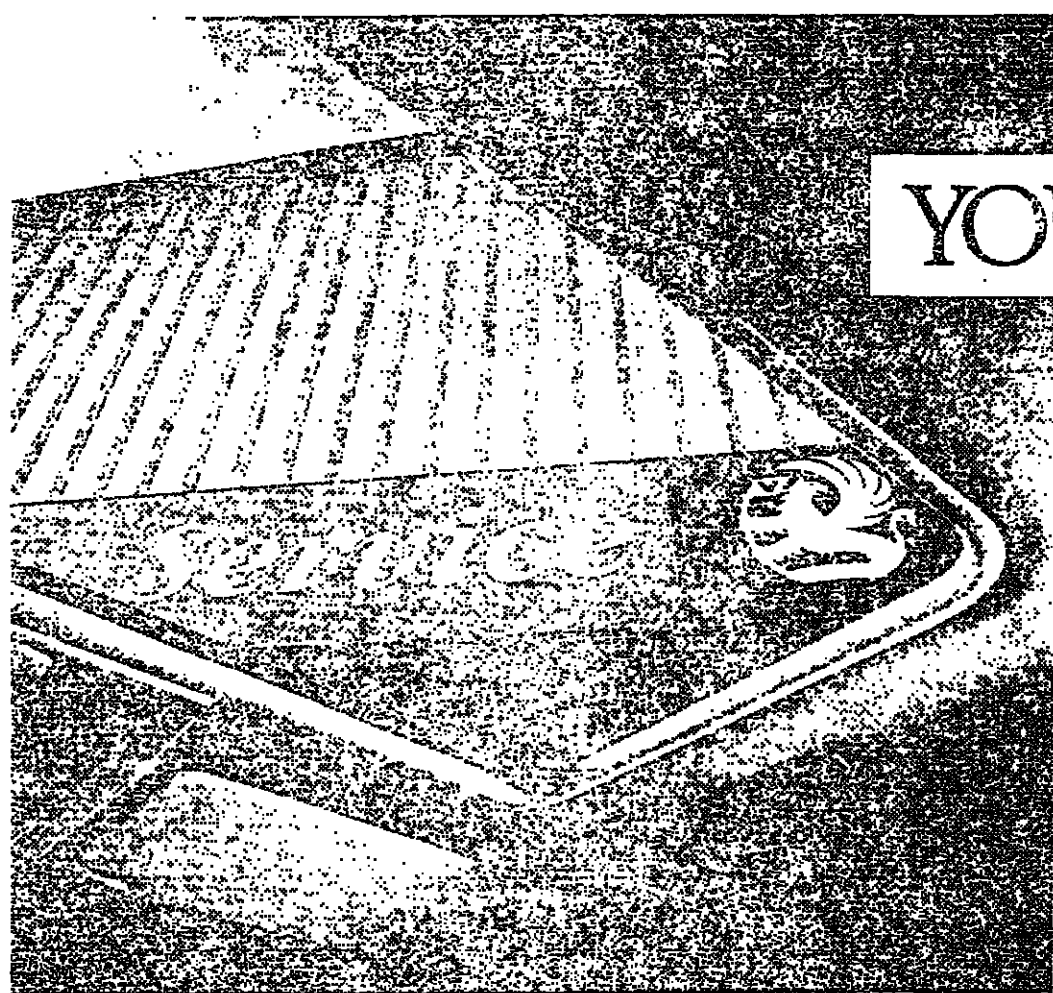
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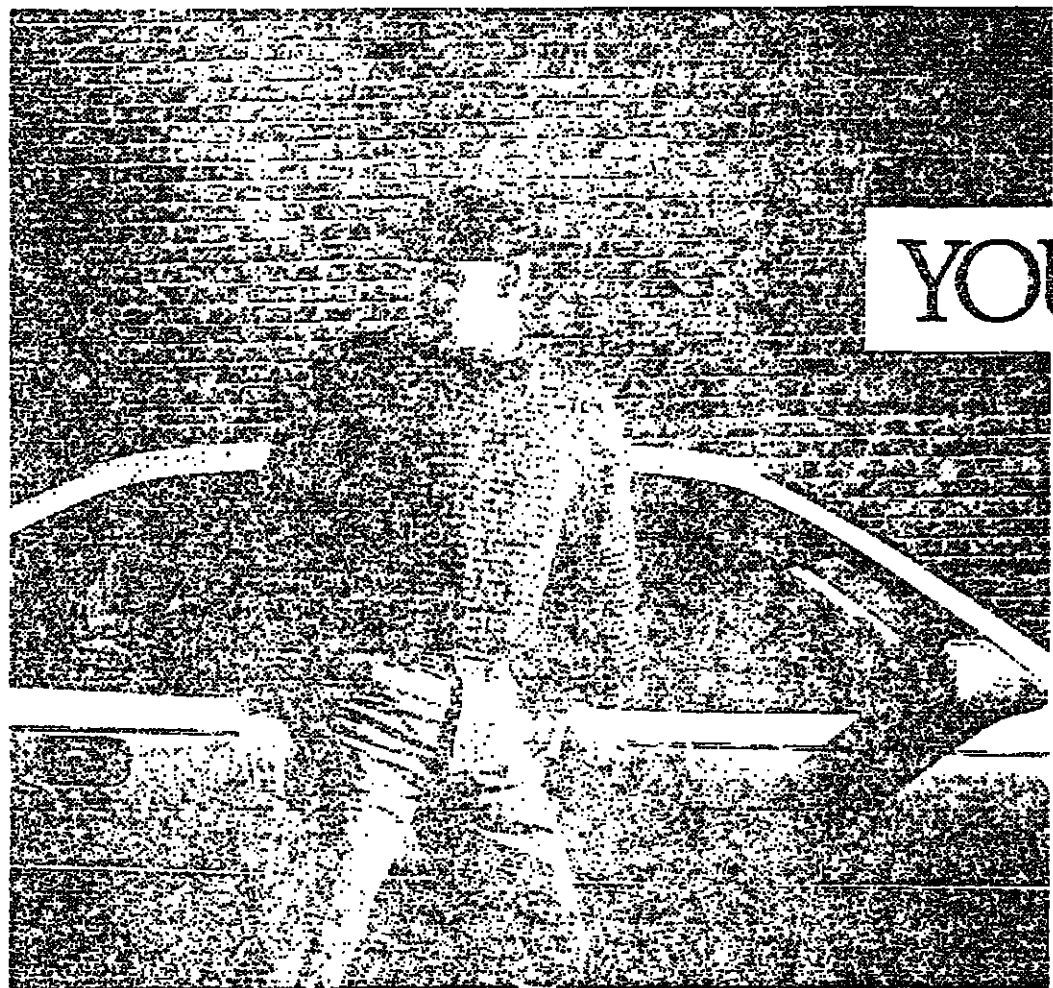
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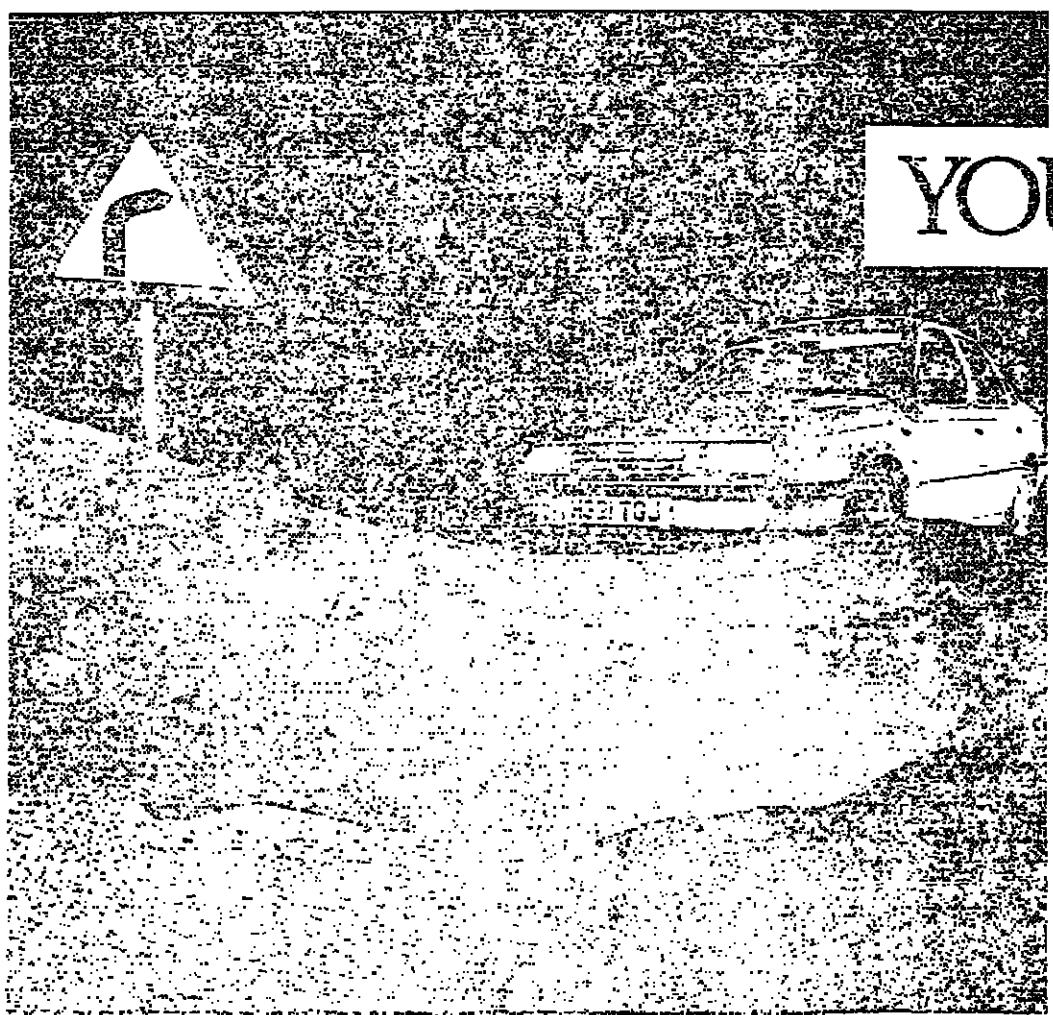
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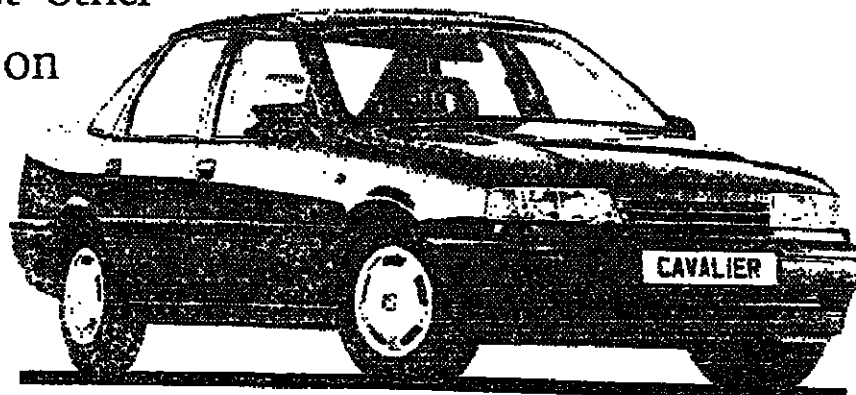


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# British tanks moving into position in Saudi desert

By ANDREW McEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AS BRITISH heavy tanks began moving to training positions in the Saudi Arabian desert yesterday, Iraq said that Britain and the United States were blocking an Arab solution to the Gulf emergency.

But William Waldegrave, minister of state at the Foreign Office, rejected suggestions that the two countries were moving towards a war and said they still wanted a peaceful solution.

Some reports implied that war must be close because the government had made arrangements for hospitals to treat injured servicemen. But Mr Waldegrave said that these were contingency precautions.

The first of 120 British Challenger tanks started heading north from Dhahran where they were unloaded last weekend after being transported by sea. After a training period they are to take up forward positions with the 7th Armoured Brigade.

One of the brigade's two regiments is the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, best known for the "charge of the Light Brigade". This week it celebrated the 136th anniversary of the charge by 600 horsemen against Russian

cavalry during the Crimean War. "I hope we are just as gallant, but better directed," Colonel Arthur Denaro, the commander, said yesterday.

The Challenger, one of the world's heaviest tanks, weighing 62 tonnes and armed with a 120mm gun, was designed as a desert tank to meet an order from the late Shah of Iran, but there have been questions about its reliability and the accuracy of its gun. The tanks spent several days in workshops at Dhahran being fitted with sand filters and other modifications.

The British forces are about 60 miles north of Dhahran close to US marines. The United States has about 1,000 tanks in Saudi Arabia and several hundred more are on the way from reserves in Europe. Iraq has about 3,500 tanks dug into defensive positions in Kuwait.

In the event of conflict, Washington's first priority would be to gain air superiority. Colonel Denaro said he was confident that US forces would achieve this, giving the multinational forces an intelligence advantage. "Their intelligence will tell us all about the enemy without them getting to know much about us," he said.

## Nakasone pleads for hostages

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

YASUHIRO Nakasone, the former Japanese prime minister, is joining the band of elder statesmen making hostage mercy missions to Iraq. He plans to leave for Baghdad in early November to talk to President Saddam Hussein and request the release of all hostages being held in Iraq and Kuwait.

"I would like to go as soon as possible to see President Saddam Hussein and talk about the possibility of resolving the situation peacefully and of arranging for all the hostages of the world, not just the Japanese, to return to their home countries with me," Mr Nakasone said yesterday, clearly flattered that he remained probably Japan's best known politician abroad.

It is not the first time that such an idea has been mooted. The 310 Japanese in Iraq and Kuwait sent a plea in September to the present Japanese prime minister, Toshiki Kaifu, to send Mr Nakasone as a special envoy to negotiate their release.

Although he will not be going as a government envoy, Mr Nakasone's decision to accept the mission now is likely to have been influenced by Edward Heath's success in winning freedom for some British captives earlier this week.

The invitation to Mr Nakasone to visit Baghdad was made by the Iraqi government and funnelled through Bunsei Sato, a former Japanese politician currently visiting Baghdad, who is close to Mr Nakasone. Mr Nakasone will travel to Iraq as an adviser to a delegation from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic party (LDP).

Mr Kaifu has not yet decided whether he will give Mr Nakasone a message to carry to the Iraqi leader, but he said yesterday that he welcomed the trip. "The government has already opened the road to political dialogue with Iraq," Mr Kaifu told reporters. "I think the invitation is a good thing."



Gulf concern: Professor Angus McGrouther believes the facilities of military hospitals could be exhausted within days in the event of conflict

## Britain 'may not cope' with casualties

By THOMSON PRENTICE AND JILL SHERMAN

BRITISH hospitals might be unable to cope with large numbers of seriously injured casualties from a conflict in the Gulf, a leading plastic surgeon said yesterday.

A system would have to be imposed to decide which of the wounded could be treated and which could not, said Angus McGrouther, professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery at University College Hospital, London.

He said the capacity of military hospitals in Britain to handle casualties who were badly burned or injured by chemical weapons could be exhausted within a few days. Health service hospitals would then take over, but they too would be quickly overstretched, he said.

Professor McGrouther is an

international authority in his field. During the Iran-Iraq war he treated soldiers from both sides referred to him with severe burns and bomb blast injuries. His work is funded by the Phoenix Appeal charity.

The Ministry of Defence has confirmed that contingency plans to handle wounded are being discussed with health authorities, mainly in the south of England. The ministry is building a network of medical facilities, including field hospitals in Saudi Arabia, hospital ships off the Saudi coast, and a military unit in Akrotiri in Cyprus.

Recent estimates in the United States have put the number of potential allied casualties in the Gulf as high as 30,000 dead or wounded.

Britain has sent a military force of 15,000 personnel.

A 400-bed field hospital has been set up at Jubayl in Saudi Arabia, with a medical staff of 500, including 20 surgeons and anaesthetists. An operating theatre is being installed in The Royal Fleet Auxiliary Argus, which leaves Britain next week to become a floating hospital off the Saudi coast to which casualties could be transferred by helicopter.

Professor McGrouther said it was almost certain that military and civilian hospitals in Britain would become involved. "If there is a conflict, injuries from burns and chemical weapons are likely to be a big problem."

A planload of casualties would soak up the capacity of military hospitals within a

matter of hours. This was one of the lessons of the Falklands war. At the very most, the health service would be able to treat only about 150 such casualties at one time. There are no more than 30 plastic surgery or burns units in the country, and they could handle only five patients each because of the intensive treatment required.

"We would get into a dilemma quickly where a system would be necessary to decide who to treat and who not to treat."

Several regional health authorities, including Wessex and East Anglian, have been approached by the ministry to assess whether their hospitals would be able to take in casualties. The ministry said yesterday that discussions

were also taking place on whether NHS doctors would be able to help military hospitals depleted of staff.

The Cambridge Military Hospital in Aldershot, Hants has effectively closed as most of its staff are being sent to Saudi Arabia to set up a 400-bed field hospital. Wessex region, which contains two military hospitals, at Gosport, Hampshire and Swindon, Wiltshire, has 15 big acute hospitals, several of which may have to take casualties.

"Disaster plans are always in a state of readiness," a spokesman for the region said. "Everyone must hope that there is no conflict in the Gulf, but if NHS hospitals were to be called on, I am sure they would rise to the occasion and provide superlative care."

## Maids held slave by Arab families

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

A CRUEL but unsung legacy of the Gulf conflict is the plight of hundreds of penniless Asian housemaids transplanted with their employers by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and now forcibly kept in service in Egyptian households.

"They are the 20th-century equivalent of slaves, unable to escape and often kept working inhuman hours without pay," one Asian diplomat said. "So far, the problems caused elsewhere by the crisis have been so large that few people have had time to worry about them."

According to the Sri Lankan embassy in Cairo, most of the victims are Sri Lankan women, about 200 of whom are currently being held against their will, forbidden to leave and forced to work without pay for families who claim to have lost their money in Kuwait. The scandal was highlighted for the first time this week by Ronnie Weerakoon, the Sri Lankan ambassador, when one woman died in hospital after becoming so desperate that she jumped from a third-storey window, trying either to escape or to kill herself.

The Sri Lankans and hundreds of other Asian women worked as maids or nannies with Kuwaiti or Egyptian families in Kuwait and came with their employers to spend the summer in Cairo, where they were trapped when Iraqi tanks rolled across the Kuwait border on August 2.

About 1,500 Asian women have been left at the gates of their embassies, and Kuwaiti employers and European countries have been helping to pay for flights home, but many formerly rich Egyptian expatriate families are blamed for not letting employees leave.

"It appears there are about 200 being held by Egyptian employers, who are not allowing them to come to the embassy," said Mr Weerakoon, who added that Colombo was now planning to call in the Egyptian police to secure the women's freedom.

The ambassador, whose embassy sports a poster telling visitors "God will bless you if you help these girls who have served you well," said that he knew about the trapped women from others who had come to the embassy and some who had secretly telephoned him from their employers' homes to complain of being locked in.

Mr Weerakoon said that the rush to his embassy began around August 20 as the realisation sank in with Egyptian employers that they had little hope in the near future of resuming their former carefree and well-paid lives in Kuwait.

At one time, up to 40 women a day were being brought to the embassy in the Cairo suburb of Zamelek, but that number has now dropped to around two or three daily. Many of those arriving complain they had not been paid for months after their employers claimed to have lost all their money in Kuwait.

Each of the 15 republics contains at least one significant ethnic minority. In some, it comprises Russian immigrants who are concentrated in urban areas. In others, however, including the

Russian Federation, there are several non-Russian minorities indigenous to the region. Often, though not in the case of the Gagauz in Moldova, the area inhabited by the minority is designated an "autonomous" republic, region or district, giving it a special (but not that special) status. Nagorno-Karabakh in the trans-Caucasus, the mountainous area populated mainly by Armenians, but administered by the republic of Azerbaijan which surrounds it, is the most notorious of these "autonomies", as they are called in Russian.

More typical of the overall problem facing the Soviet Union are the smaller ethnic minorities of the Russian Federation which have no other homeland. They include the Yakuts of eastern Siberia, the Kalmyks near the Caspian Sea, and the Tatars of the Volga region. All these groups live in designated "autonomies".

AMID heightened martial rhetoric against Iraq from the American administration, James Baker, the secretary of state, is to visit Saudi Arabia next week, State Department sources said yesterday.

The aim of the trip, which his office would not officially confirm, was said to be first to focus international attention back to Kuwait and away from the Palestinian question and second to assess the strength of the alliance if military action against Iraq is required.

Planning for the trip began several days ago at the same time as the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Colin Powell, called for reinforcements of up to 100,000 troops so that the US and its allies should be able to mount an offensive to retake Kuwait. It coincides with tough speeches from the defence secretary Richard Cheney and William Webster, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, emphasising the risks of Iraq "lashing out" against Saudi Arabia or Israel and the dangers to future Middle East peace if Saddam Hussein is not removed from power.

Government sources said the twin-track policy of UN-backed sanctions and military build-up remained unchanged. They discounted reports that Mr Baker would ask King Fahd for permission to launch a first strike against Iraqi forces in Kuwait. Officials made clear that the Saudis were encouraging the US into war rather than vice versa. Mr Baker would be able to assess

the diplomatic state of the alliance and to give a message to Iraq and the American people that the military option remained strong.

Meanwhile, senior Iraqi sources said Washington's plan to send 100,000 reinforcements to Saudi Arabia will not affect Iraq's ability to defend Kuwait.

"By sending more troops it means that the Americans are preparing for war," one Iraqi official said. "It means that the American threat is still alive." Iraq expects them to attack at any moment and is prepared to repulse them. There are already about 200,000 American combat troops based in northeastern

Saudi Arabia, outnumbered by an Iraqi force of about 400,000 in or near Kuwait.

In Baghdad, the father of a British student injured in a car crash on his way to being freed from Kuwait, will not be allowed to return to Britain, Iraqi officials said yesterday. Bruce Duncan, who yesterday was at his son Rory's bedside at a Baghdad hospital, came out of hiding in Kuwait when he learned of the accident.

His other son, Alex, aged 21, an undergraduate at Balliol College, Oxford, was killed in the crash on Tuesday morning as he was being driven by Iraqi officials to join Edward Heath and 33 Britons who were allowed to go home.

## Israelis deny a move to partition

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

DESPITE official denials, the conviction is growing in Israel that, by sealing off the West Bank and Gaza to prevent spiralling violence, Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing government is reintroducing the "green line" and helping to create de facto partition between pre-1967 Israel and the occupied territories.

"There has been a change because of the Temple Mount killings and the subsequent violence," one diplomat said. "There is minimal contact now between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews. Palestinians are clearly not going to be given self-government by Shamir, but they could end up living in a separate Israeli-controlled entity if this trend continues."

Moshe Arens, the defence minister, said there was no renewal of the green line. "We decided to prevent the entry of residents of the territories into Israel for a few days," Mr Arens said. This would enable Israel to "review means of supervising Arab labourers entering Israel" while simultaneously enabling Palestinians to "consider the situation and conclude that continuing violent acts will only worsen the tragedy of the Palestinian population."

Military sources said the closure of the occupied territories could be rescinded by the middle of the coming week if calm was restored. Thousands of troops have been drafted in to reinforce the green line. But in West Bank towns the mood was defiant. "We can manage without the Jews," one young Arab said. "If they gave us our own state, we could build a Palestinian economy."

Other Palestinians said that Arabs and Jews would continue to need each other, and that their economic fates were linked. "We have the labour, the Israelis have the money," one Arab building worker said. In Jerusalem, Faisal Hussein, the leading Palestinian activist, said there could be no return to the "man and horse relationship" between Israelis and Palestinians. There is none the less concern among Palestinians that Israeli employers will replace the 120,000 Palestinians who normally commute to work in Israel with Soviet Jewish immigrants, and that Palestinian families will suffer greatly from the loss of income.

Israelis have become markedly more suspicious of Arabs in Jerusalem because of this week's spate of revenge stabbings. The interior ministry said there had been "a sharp increase" in applications from Israeli citizens for gun licences for "self defence". Certainly, any Arab working in an Israeli shop or garage is regarded with suspicion at the moment. "I don't turn my back any more" one garage owner said. "I know my Arab mechanics very well, we visit each other's homes. But this suspicion is poisonous."

## Moldavia declares emergency to avert war

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

A SPECIAL session of parliament in Soviet Moldova yesterday declared a state of emergency in three southern districts of the republic, in what it said was an attempt to prevent civil war.

The emergency, to last for two months in the first instance, provides for the dissolution of all local councils and direct rule by provisional committees from the republic's capital, Kishinev. All demonstrations and assemblies are banned, so is the use of printing and photocopying facilities. Entry and exit to the region are restricted.

The three southern districts, which are inhabited mainly by ethnic Turks, unilaterally declared themselves the independent Gagauz Republic in August and on Thursday started elections to its parliament. The same day, armed volunteers committed to stopping the elections set off from Kishinev in 85 buses for the

journey to the Gagauz regional centre, Komrat. According to the semi-official news agency, Interfax, quoting the Moldavian interior ministry, upwards of 20,000 volunteers had gathered on the border with the Gagauz region.

The recall of the volunteers was being discussed yesterday by the Moldavian parliament. Responsibility for enforcing the state of emergency is to rest with a regiment of interior ministry troops at present stationed in Kishinev, but they are fewer in number than the volunteers.

It was also reported that 10 armoured personnel carriers had been dispatched to the town of Chemishia, near Komrat, where the volunteer detachments were gathering, but so far the situation was described as calm.

The Speaker of the Moldavian parliament, Aleksandru Moșanu, made a television broadcast on Thursday night, appealing for "maximum re-

straint, calm and tolerance" to prevent clashes between volunteers and the Gagauz people. "There are militants on both sides," he was quoted as saying, "ready to cast us into the abyss of violence."

The conflict between the Moldavian leadership and the



Gagauz region is one of the many ancient ethnic conflicts

which the fiercer atmosphere in the Soviet Union has brought to the surface.

The republic of Moldova is populated mainly with ethnic Romanians, who have campaigned to leave the Soviet Union and to join neighbouring Romania. The resurgence of Romanian nationalism was matched by awakening ethnic consciousness among the 150,000-strong Turkish population, whose leaders expressed fears for their future if Romanian dominance grew.

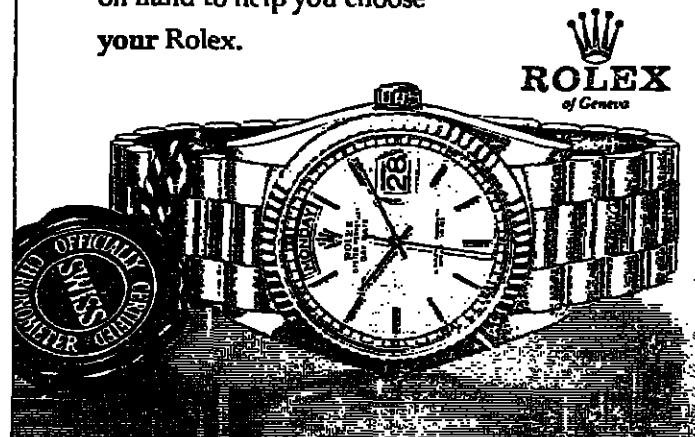
The dispute with the ethnic Turkish minority is one of at least two dozen such conflicts already occurring or which could erupt in coming months somewhere in the Soviet Union.

Each of the 15 republics contains at least one significant ethnic minority. In some, it comprises Russian immigrants who are concentrated in urban areas. In others, however, including the

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# No News is bad news for city on the brink of collapse

THE loudspeakers in Grand Central station played that old favourite *Autumn in New York* yesterday as commuters searched for the *Daily News*, the city's biggest-selling paper. For the first time since it was founded after the first world war, there were none. Across 42nd Street, in a northerly gale, pickets were circling the art deco building that is headquarters to the *News*.

After months of bitter brinkmanship, the unions had called an all-out "strike to the death" in the early hours and opened a fight to prevent the Chicago owners from putting out a version with non-union staff. They had been recruited and trained for months, ready for deployment at new production facilities in New Jersey and Brooklyn.

New Yorkers have been apprised of the struggle for months, if only because the unions have placed big advertising posters on

A sense of deep despair is challenging the long-held view that, come what may, New York is and always will be the world's greatest city, writes Charles Bremner

city buses proclaiming: "The *Daily News* is bad for its workers". Strikers yesterday burned delivery lorries in Brooklyn in an attempt to stop the "scab" workers. The Tribune group of Chicago is determined to break what it considers restrictive union practices and some officials predicted the death of the paper.

For ordinary New Yorkers the closure of the *News*, which until recently held the biggest weekday circulation of any US paper, was more bad news in a baleful month that has seen the city reach a sense of gloom deeper than any, at least, since the near fiscal collapse of the mid-1970s.

Ironically, that unstable period is best remembered for one celebrated 1975 headline in the *Daily News*: "Ford to City: Drop Dead". It reported President Ford's refusal to help rescue the city from bankruptcy.

The new recession started hitting a year ago and crime and racial tension have been exploding for longer, but over the past couple of weeks several events have converged to make even the most blasé citizens reconsider the conventional view that, whatever happens, New York will always remain the world's greatest city.

Property values have taken a further dive. Much of the *new*

middle-class is facing up to the idea that their flats, if bought in the late 1980s, may never again be worth more than a fraction of the mortgage. Analysts have begun predicting trouble for some New York-based banks, the largest in the US, because of their lending in the property boom. Radio stations have started airing commercials for pawn shops, now called "loan centres".

The most ominous blow of all was the resignation last week of Felix Rohatyn, the banker who led the Municipal Assistance Corporation, the agency which rescued the city from the 1970s troubles and helped it prosper in the 1980s. Mr Rohatyn said he wanted no part of the disaster which was now looming. The city, he said, "is facing a social, political and economic crisis far more serious than the fiscal crisis of the 1970s".

At stake is its whole future as

the financial and cultural heart of the United States. Unlike the 1970s, there was no longer any public consensus on the need for shared sacrifice, he said, in words that rang like thunder on Wall Street. "Today New York has become a city full of anger and violence in which ethnic groups are turned against other ethnic groups, races against other races, classes against other classes."

The city has witnessed fresh illustrations of the new racial breakdown over the past few days. In Brooklyn on Thursday night, thousands of Hispanics besieged a police station in protest against what they said was lenient police treatment of Jews in the district. In the subway, young black passengers attacked a group of white commuters who had gone to the aid of a woman as she was being mugged by a black youth. They punched Lisa Polk, the victim, and allowed the

mobster to escape. They explained that the good Samaritans were demonstrating racism.

The object of Mr Rohatyn's frustration is Mayor David Dinkins and the administration he inaugurated only last January. Elected on a promise to heal the racial divide, Mr Dinkins has appeared confused and ineffectual in the face of the conflict.

"Do Nothing Dave", as the newspapers have dubbed him, astonished the city after he gave a hefty pay rise to teachers, and the next day announced the likely dismissal of 15,000 city workers. Yesterday, his team suffered the humiliation of asking the teachers' union leaders to come back to the table and re-negotiate. Mr Dinkins is now engaged in pay negotiations with unions for a majority of the city's 300,000 employees.

Mr Rohatyn and many experts are predicting disaster if he fails

to win big concessions in order to cover a \$1 billion (£300 million) budget deficit, but few expected him to prevail. "The big question these past few weeks has been whether David Dinkins knows what he is doing," said *New York* magazine. "The consensus is that he doesn't."

Jimmy Breslin, the veteran commentator, said the mayor "does absolutely nothing but change his clothes". The troubles of self-important, recently glittering New York are now the source of much *Schadenfreude* in "mainland America". Comedians are deriving mileage from jokes such as Jay Leno's crack that the Statue of Liberty is being remodelled so the lady has both hands up. But some things do not change. The big news yesterday in the *New York Post* was Donald Trump's announcement that he did not plan to marry Maria Maples.

## British vision of EC future under scrutiny in Rome talks

From MICHAEL BINYON IN BRUSSELS

MARGARET Thatcher sits down in Rome with fellow European leaders today to discuss the political union of the European Community: a concept anathema to Downing Street, and one that only a year ago was nowhere on the horizon.

But the two hours of talks are not about the immediate construction of a United States of Europe: even federalists such as Jacques Delors, the European Commission president, regard that as a long way off. Political union is really shorthand for three related issues: extending community competence to foreign policy and defence, streamlining decision-making and making the EC more accountable to voters.

All have been made more urgent by the upheavals in Eastern Europe, the gathering pace of economic integration and the confrontation in the Gulf. And all were brought together at the Dublin summit in April, when EC leaders realised that the proposed inter-governmental conference on economic and monetary union

could not also handle such disparate topics. And so they set up a second, parallel, conference and appointed experts to look at what it should discuss and make preliminary recommendations. The commission did the same.

Their reports are now on the table, and community leaders will give their first reactions to them today. Some countries, such as France and Italy, have also floated proposals informally in briefings for journalists over the past month, with the clear aim of influencing the debate.

Britain, which did not want this debate in the first place, has not put forward any grand scheme, partly because the government does not really know what changes, if any, it wants in the Treaty of Rome, and partly because it does not want to preempt the discussions at the inter-governmental conference. Nevertheless, Britain is determined to have its views heard, and has therefore jotted down on a two-page summary the issues it believes most important.

The first is that the Western European Union should remain the principal co-ordinator of European defence, and that nothing should be done to undermine Nato. Similarly in foreign policy, Britain wants the present quasi-independent political co-operation procedures to continue with a strengthened secretariat, though with increasing links to the commission. To improve community efficiency, Britain proposes giving the European Court power to levy fines on countries failing to implement directives that have been adopted. And, to increase democratic accountability, it is ready to let the European parliament confirm appointments of the president, as well as having a greater role in auditing EC finances.

So far, by far the most comprehensive and cogent proposals have come from the commission. Published this week, the well-timed report combines caution and vision. It argues that any changes must take account of public opinion in the member countries and their different conceptions of pooled sovereignty. It renounces any sole commission right to make foreign policy, says defence should best stay with the WEU for a while, and slaps down some of the more overreaching demands of the European parliament for co-decision.

The report holds up a vision of a more efficient and accountable community that goes much further than Britain's suggestions. It is the sweep of the vision that will both inspire the federalists and repel the British government, whose minimalist approach eschews all such blueprints. Mrs Thatcher will nevertheless be pressed today to spell out what Britain would propose instead.

Rough notes on how to tidy up this or that bit of the Brussels bureaucracy are not enough.

## Top party man held in scandal

From JOHN HOLLAND IN BERLIN

BERLIN police yesterday arrested Wolfgang Pohl, the vice-president of the beleaguered German communist party, and an associate of his, Wolfgang Langitschke, amid a growing scandal involving party funds.

Gregor Gysi, the leader of the Party for Democratic Socialism, the successor to the East German communist party, announced at a press conference yesterday that he was prepared to resign.

A police investigation is under way as a result of the recent discovery that party officials suspiciously transferred DM107 million (£36.2 million) in party funds to several bank accounts in Oslo and Utrecht belonging to a Soviet firm. Subsequently several party members tried to withdraw the money.

Over 100 heavily armed policemen have raided the party's headquarters and searched the offices of Herr Gysi and Hans Modrow, the former prime minister, in an unsuccessful attempt to uncover evidence directly linking them to the scandal.

Earlier, Herr Pohl announced at a press conference called by the party that he would resign his post as vice-president. Herr Pohl, responsible for overseeing party funds, told reporters that he was trying to save German communists from financial ruin by initiating the transfer of funds.

Herr Gysi, who met members of the Soviet Communist party's central committee in Moscow on Thursday in an attempt to learn more about the Soviet firm allegedly involved, said he had contacted the Berlin state attorney's office to reveal what he knew about the transactions.

A party official from Halle, suspected of having master-minded the transfers, is believed to be in hiding in the Soviet Union, according to a party spokesman.

Herr Gysi told reporters that he was offering his resignation because "false information" was given to the media about the party's position in the affair. But he insisted that he himself was free of any personal guilt or involvement in the affair.

The party leadership said it would turn down his offer of resignation at a meeting today in Berlin, but Herr Gysi said he would seek a vote of confidence.

The affair has all but destroyed the party's credibility and its claim to have given up the ways of the discredited old ruling party of East Germany. It could also cost the party votes in the December general elections.



Taking a tumble: President Bush, under the eye of Vic Gold, a consultant, romps with his dogs before going on an afternoon jog

## Poll rival has Helms running scared

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR the first time in his Senate career, the fire-and-brimstone conservative Jesse Helms is on the defensive in a campaign for reelection in North Carolina.

His rival, Harvey Gantt, a soft-spoken black liberal, has moved into the lead by 49 per cent to 41 per cent according to a local opinion poll taken during the federal budget emergency that has detained the Republican senator in Washington. No rival has ever come so close to defeating Mr Helms on paper during his three successful campaigns for a seat on Capitol Hill.

Senator Helms portrays Mr Gantt as an ultra-liberal at odds with the conservatism of the Bible belt. For his part, Mr Gantt, an architect who was the first black to

attend a university in neighbouring South Carolina in the 1960s, has painted Mr Helms as out of touch with the issues of day in a state that has experienced considerable immigration and urban expansion over the past few years.

His television advertisements have attacked Mr Helms's record on education and the environment, drawing on increasing concern among North Carolinians depressed their state is rated bottom on child literacy and that their forests are being spoiled.

Most importantly, however, the race is a battle between the new South and the old South. Even Mr Gantt's staff admit the race may not be as close as polls indicate since black candidates in recent

political races around the country have suffered from the so-called halo factor, or whites unwilling to admit their prejudice against voting for a black.

"They might not agree with everything Jesse Helms will do and they might tell you that his days are numbered," said Joan Neal, a church worker in a small town outside Charlotte. "But they will still go to the polls for him because they're just not quite ready for this kind of liberal." Mr Gantt opposes the death penalty and favours increasing taxes and cutting spending to bring down the federal budget deficit.

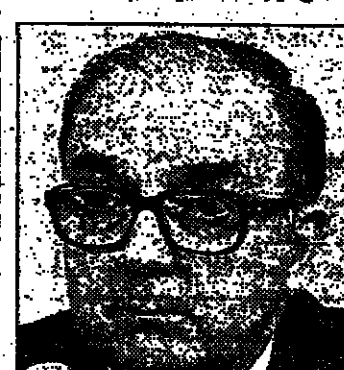
Mr Helms's strong suit is his ability to distance himself from the day-to-day workings of Congress by vowing he has "never cast

a political vote in his life". Instead, he is suffering more from a growing feeling that 18 years is quite long enough for one man to stay in power. "He's 68. He's an old man," says Gloria Taylor, who runs a grocery in a mainly black neighbourhood of Charlotte.

Mr Gantt faces the tough task of appealing to Mr Helms's strongest constituency, the blue-collar textile mill employees and tobacco pickers in the eastern part of the state. He has won support among black church groups and school students with his easy-going manner. He drew whoops of approval at a school this week by saying he trusted North Carolina women to choose for themselves whether to have an abortion.

The Helms campaign is counting on the state's rural vote to win, as well as white support in a region that is 20 per cent black. The race is sure to be perilously close.

Saturday Review, page 10



Helms: behind in election ratings for the first time

## Bold Afrikaans newspaper fined

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

THE editor and publishers of South Africa's only liberal Afrikaans language newspaper were fined a total of 7,000 rands (£1,450) yesterday over an article it printed about the country's intelligence service.

For Max Du Preez, aged 37, editor of the Johannesburg-based weekly *Vry Weekblad* (Independent Weekly), the sentence of a fine of 2,000 rands or four months' imprisonment came as a relief. His newspaper's publishers were fined 5,000 rands.

He had expected to be imprisoned for up to five years. He was convicted of receiving and publi-

shing a document sensitive to state security. Ironically, the article which claimed there were links between the national intelligence service and the now defunct Institute for Soviet Studies at Stellenbosch university, regarded as the main thinktank of Afrikaner ideology, was published on February 2, the same day that President de Klerk unbanned the African National Congress (ANC) and abolished media restrictions.

*Vry Weekblad*, launched just over a year ago, has paid a heavy price for campaigning against apartheid. After it exposed the activities of clandestine security

force units its offices were attacked with petrol bombs.

Meanwhile, an arrest warrant has been issued by a Johannesburg magistrate against Winnie Mandela, wife of Nelson Mandela, deputy president of the ANC. She failed to turn up in court on Thursday on charges relating to non-payment of unemployment insurance for workers in a fish and chips shop in which she has a financial interest.

She is due to face trial next February on kidnap and assault charges arising from the murder of Stompie Mokhele, aged 14, by her former bodyguards.

## Hungary jammed by petrol protest

BUDAPEST — Hungary was thrown into confusion yesterday and faced the prospect of economic paralysis as thousands of taxi and lorry drivers blocked roads, public transport and border crossings in protest at the government's decision to double petrol prices (Ernest Beck writes).

Buda and other cities were brought to a standstill. In the capital taxis blocked all bridges across the Danube as well as the main road to the airport and the international motorway link with Vienna.

Only a few cars were being allowed through at all crossings except on the frontier with the Soviet Union.

## Bomber guilty

Sydney — Timothy Anderson, aged 38, a former member of the Ananda Marga Indian sect, has been found guilty of masterminding a bomb attack at a Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Sydney 12 years ago which killed three people. The bomb was an attempt to assassinate the Indian prime minister, Moraji Desai, to force the Indian government to free the leader of the Ananda Marga sect from jail. (Reuter)

## Chief charged

Panama City — Colonel Eduardo Herrera, the former chief of police, has been charged with plotting to overthrow the government of President Guillermo Endara. Colonel Herrera led the reorganization of Panama's military after the US invasion that overthrew the former strongman, Manuel Noriega. But President Endara retired him in August, and the government now says the colonel is linked to a group that opposes US intervention in Panama. (AP)

## Pact broken

Nairobi — Fierce fighting erupted between the Rwandan army and rebels in the northeast of Rwanda, less than 36 hours after a ceasefire went into effect. The Rwandan army violated the ceasefire and launched a big offensive against rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front in an attempt to push them further north. The ceasefire had been worked out by the Belgian prime minister, Wilfried Martens. (AFP)

## Taiwan pays

Taipei — Taiwan has paid "sympathy money" to the widow of the Chinese-American writer Henry Liu, who was shot dead in his California home by paid Taiwanese agents in 1984. The vice foreign minister, Chen Chien-jen, said Taipei had agreed, but declined to confirm that the amount paid was \$1.5 million. (Reuter)

## Train rams bus

Cairo — Twelve people were killed and 15 seriously injured when a train-travelling at full speed collided with a bus at a railway crossing near the old Cairo airport. Most of the victims were relatives of Egyptian army officers, who were travelling home from Cairo. (AFP)

## Horrors of war give Cambodian luxury a harsh edge

From JAMES PRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

THE pretty cocktail waitresses at the luxurious Hotel Cambodiana at Karl Marx Quay on the Mekong river here are charming and beguilingly innocent, and they like to talk to guests.

But they do not chat about pop music, fashions, boyfriends and dates, as their counterparts would be expected to do in most parts of the world. Instead, they earnestly steer the conversation towards issues of life and death, war, peace, bereavement, fear, horror and anxiety about the future. Like children who grew up in the Warsaw ghetto or Biafra, they have seen more than they should. They want to share their experience.

The stories they tell guests are so outside the experience of most visitors, especially the few tourists who now come to Cambodia, that

some staying at the Hotel Cambodiana seem shaken.

"You have been swimming?" asks Sopheap, a 20-year-old girl whose father was once a tourist guide at the great ruins of Angkor. "When I was little, I used to swim in the Mekong river. The Khmer Rouge did not mind that, but they used to scold me when I went to see my mother in the evenings. I had been separated from my parents, you see. They said that Angkor (the organisation) was my mother and father now."

"Sir, do you know when the United Nations will bring peace to Cambodia?" asks Sarath, another waitress, as she serves a guest a drink. "Do you know what day they will arrive, sir?"

It seems an anomaly, a gross contradiction in one of the world's poorest countries, and one in which a debilitating and cruel civil war is leaving thousands of cri-

ples. One is used to seeing contrasts in Third World countries between rich and poor, but a glitzy hotel in Cambodia seems at first to be just too much.

The difference between the lives of those at the hotel swimming pool, and the impoverished fisher folk on bamboo and thatched house boats on the river just 30 yards away, is immense. The fishermen are not even in the monetary economy. Even a government salary here is only £3 a month. It is a measure of the graciousness of most Cambodians that those on the river wave cheerily to hotel guests.

The Hotel Cambodiana opened in June, after the building, started before the overthrow of the former Cambodian ruler, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, in 1970, had lain abandoned for 20 years of war and Khmer Rouge terror. A joint venture between the Phnom Penh

government and an overseas Chinese who once lived in Cambodia, the structure in traditional Cambodian architectural style is partly complete and 100 rooms have opened, at a cost of £35-a-night a room. Occupancy hovers around 50 per cent.

The hotel, as the management admits, still has some rough edges — no telephones in the rooms, no credit cards accepted — but this is compensated for by the great charm of the Cambodian staff.

The initial impression as one enters the air-conditioned lobby is of leaving steamy Cambodia for a faceless international hotel. The first party of nine North American tourists to come to Cambodia last week was distressed by the contrast with the impoverished city outside. But the feeling of sterility is soon dispelled as the staff greet guests by clasping their hands in front of their chests in a Buddhist

gesture of respect — a custom dying out among Phnom Penh officials who, after 11 years of Vietnamese occupation, have adopted the handshake.

But it is not all sweetness and light at the hotel. In the restaurant at night drunken Cambodian bachelors dance together on the floor, throw glasses about and fight over Vietnamese taxi girls. A sign at the entrance of the hotel gives a warning that guns and prostitutes are barred. Guns are checked in with security. The girls appear anyway. "When they dance the Lambada, I turn my face away," said one waitress in the restaurant. "It is not the custom of Cambodian girls to hold their bodies close to a man's. Cambodian girls would never go to a man's room, like these Vietnamese girls do."

The Cambodian staff are also outspoken about the guests. "The Thais are good tippers, but the

Vietnamese steal the teaspoons," said a waiter. (Few Cambodians have a good word for Vietnamese, their ancestral foes).

Jean-Marie Bertron, the guest services manager, who was previously concierge at the Crillon on the Place de la Concorde, said: "I came to Cambodia because I have a Cambodian girlfriend in Paris and I wanted to see whether the country was as charming as she is. Sometimes things go a little bit to excess, but we wanted to open the hotel facilities to ordinary Cambodians, unlike China, where locals are barred. In time things will be smoothed out."

The room boys and girls ask guests to help them with their English, and all the staff speak the language in an idiosyncratic way. "Have a nice day," the lift boy brightly tells a guest, sleepily making his way from the bar to his room, just before midnight.

27 10 1990



## Burma war puts tribes in peril



Seeking refuge: displaced by Burmese fighting, a Kayan joins the flight to Thailand, where the long necks of the tribeswomen have become a tourist attraction

## Bhutto vote-rigging claims rejected by Pakistan observers

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN KARACHI

A TEAM of international observers announced yesterday that it had credible reports of serious problems affecting Pakistan's general elections, but that the problems did not significantly alter the outcome.

The delegation's co-leader, Vahit Halefoglu said that they had received no evidence to substantiate allegations concerning irregular vote totals.

The report said the team had credible reports of several specific and serious problems, including the killing of a candidate, party workers and other civilians. It had documented attacks by armed

men on polling officials, agents and voters and the kidnapping and arrest of party workers. It had heard complaints of bias in the electronic media and concluded that Pakistani television coverage of the campaign was not balanced.

Its members had received unconfirmed allegations of an election cell in a provincial chief minister's secretariat that requested progressive reports of election results, in apparent violation of published election rules. The observers did not give the names of the parties believed responsible for the election irregularities.

The 40-member delegation from the National Democratic Institute (NDI), which drew members from 17 countries, said the elections at the local level were generally open, orderly and well administered.

The ousted prime minister, Benazir Bhutto, had alleged massive countrywide rigging when she conceded defeat on Wednesday. To Miss Bhutto's allegations that three million bogus votes had been cast nationwide, a team member, Ken Wollack, said: "I don't think so."

However, he repeated the wish stated in the report that all complaints would be investigated by Pakistan Election Commission in a prompt manner. "I hope it will not take two or three years," he said.

The team said it had visited 500 to 600 polling sites in 30 constituencies throughout the country. The report was based on consensus and therefore no minority report would be issued. However, sources in the delegation said there had been a wide diversity of opinion among the 40 members.

Meanwhile, Miss Bhutto was reported by party sources to have directed her Pakistan People's Party candidates to participate fully in provincial assembly elections today. "We must take full part in the elections because our party's struggle for achieving its political objectives and ideological goals must go on," she told reporters on return from her home town Larkana.

Analysts said that after losing the national elections, Miss Bhutto's main interest now lay in retaining the majority and forming the provincial government in her home province of Sindh, which has been the traditional political base of her party.

Jam Sadiq Ali, who was formerly one of her political advisers and is now a bitter political opponent, predicted that the PPP would also lose in the provincial elections in Sindh.

He said that Miss Bhutto's opponents would form the next provincial government. He firmly denied the allegation about rigging in the national polls.

## Party feud threat in Indian states

From COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

THE state governments of Gujarat in western India and Rajasthan in the northwest are in danger of collapsing after the break-up of the alliance between the Janata Dal and the Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) at the centre.

In both states the governments were run as coalitions; now the feuding Janata Dal and BJP have ordered their party members of the state legislative assemblies not to support the chief minister of the other party.

In Gujarat, Chimanbhai Patel, the Janata Dal chief minister, insisted that he could continue his government even without the support of the BJP members, thanks to the support of 11 independent members. However, in Rajasthan the BJP chief minister, Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, will be unable to survive without support from the Janata Dal.

In Rajasthan, communal clashes in the wake of the all-India strike called by the BJP to protest against the arrest of its president, Lal Krishan Advani, have not yet subsided. According to the police, 46 people have died so far, but the United News of India news agency put the figure at around 68 deaths, according to unofficial sources. The army staged a flag march yesterday in the curfew-hit cities of Jaipur and Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

Rajiv Gandhi, the leader of the Congress (I) party, yesterday demanded the dismissal of the Rajasthan government and the imposition of president's rule in the state. Mr Gandhi claimed that riots provoked by communal elements and fuelled by a complete collapse of government had created a situation of unbridled chaos in Jaipur. He said the scale of death and devastation had touched unprecedented levels and alleged that hundreds had been killed.

Elsewhere, communal flare-ups have been reported from Gujarat, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in the south, and West Bengal in the east. The toll throughout the country is around 80.

Communal tensions are likely to increase in the next few days with the Hindu organisation Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the BJP refusing to call off the programme for beginning the construction of a Hindu temple at Ayodhya at the spot where a Muslim mosque still stands.

Hundreds of thousands of Hindu devotees will be entering Ayodhya on Tuesday to take part in the voluntary work of building the temple. The movement of the volunteers is so organised that different groups are being brought into the northern state of Uttar Pradesh at different entry points, conducted by retired army and civil officials. The voluntary workers have been issued with identity cards on the back of which is a chart of their route and destination.

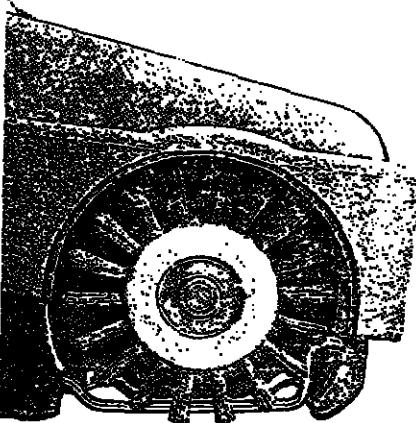
Although a huge force of police and paramilitary forces have been deployed in Ayodhya to keep the Hindu volunteers away from the mosque site, and there are police pickets on the borders of the state, it is feared that there will be large scale violence.



Gandhi: urged dismissal of Rajasthan government

Some ideas are so simple you wonder why no one thought of them before.

The brushes on the sides of a Panasonic Wall-to-Wall vacuum cleaner are that kind of idea.



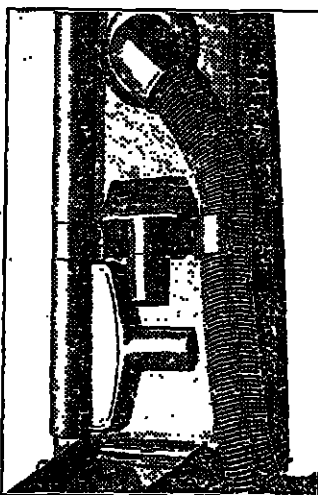
They loosen and lift dirt right up to the edge of your skirting board.

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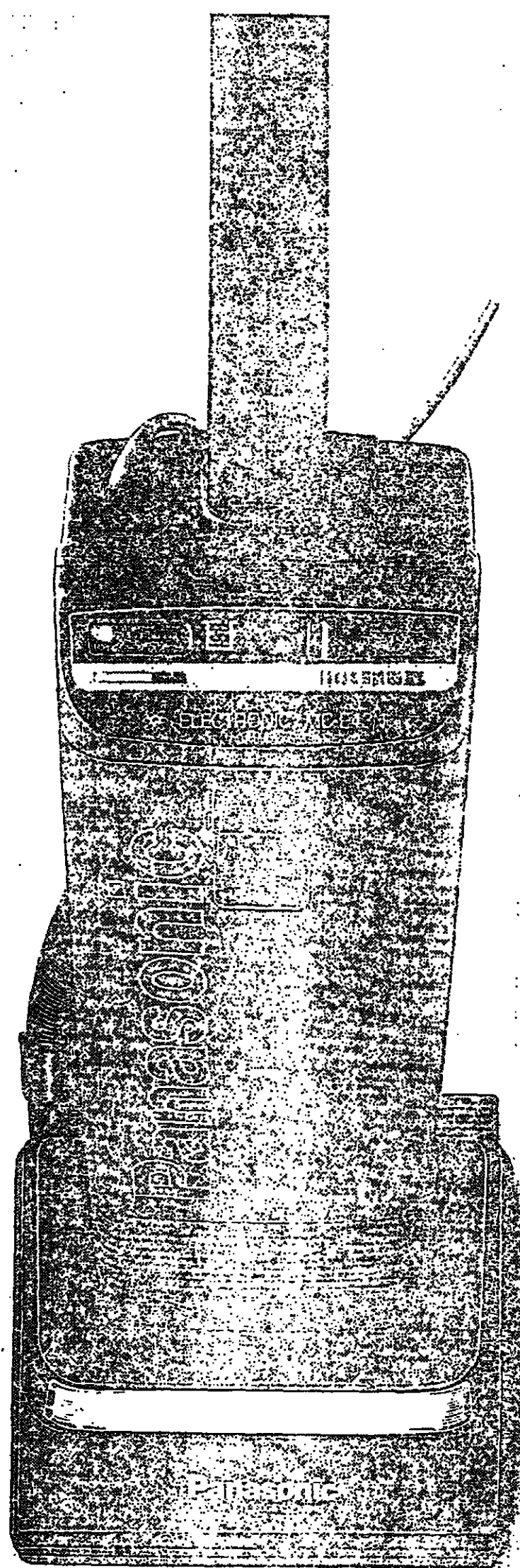
There are also accessories housed within the cleaner itself, big re-useable dust bags with an indicator to tell you when they're full, and a clean air filter.

A vacuum cleaner isn't something you buy everyday.

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THE VACUUM CLEANER THAT GIVES YOU THE EDGE

## Shanghai seeks foreign capital

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

SHANGHAI, steeped in nostalgia for the days when the port city was the financial power-house of the East, is struggling to resurrect its capitalist past and has received the support and blessing of Peking.

The central government, which in the past was more used to fiercely defending socialism against the capitalist menace, is eager to prove to the world its open-door policy still stands after the June 1989 events at Tiananmen Square.

Li Peng, the prime minister, visited Shanghai this April to stamp the central government's seal of approval on the project of attracting back foreign investment, entrusted to Zhu Rongji, the mayor of Shanghai.

Mr Zhu wants to attract foreign investment not to the faded glory of the Bund, where the European-built mansions that once housed foreign banks are too closely linked in the public mind with colonialism. Instead, he is trying to lure foreign money to the dusty, grey opposite east bank of the Huangpu River, which boasts little but a few construction sites and a lot of rice paddies.

Shanghai is estimated to need 20 billion yuan (about £2

billion) in the first three to five years to make the east bank work.

However, mauling the east bank is at present, many people in Shanghai see it as the only way to lift the city out of its rut. About half of Shanghai's economy is controlled by central government organs since capitalism was dismantled in the city after 1949 and, while Canton hands only 10 per cent of its income to Peking in the form of taxes, the city hands over more than 60 per cent.

One of Mr Zhu's most daring innovations has been to gather an official advisory group of foreign bankers and businessmen around him, and at a conference last week on developing Shanghai, American and European businessmen criticised all aspects of China's investment environment. The conference, however, also had a political message. Both Caspar Weinberger, the former US Defence Secretary, and William Simon, the former Treasury Secretary, gave speeches praising the changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and emphasising the need for political as well as economic reform in China.

## Cult raided as police seek truth

FROM JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

HAVING finally found a pretext to make arrests, more than 1,000 police have raided offices across Japan of the Aum Supreme Truth sect, a maverick but thriving Buddhist cult whose founder makes devotees drink his blood and sip potions brewed from his long black hair.

Residents of Kumamoto in Kyushu, a southern island of Japan, fearing plans by the sect's leader, Shoko Asahara, to build a commune and training camp for some of his 5,000 followers in their midst, put the police under pressure to make a move against the cult. Police arrested the cult's lawyer this week and seized membership records at a dozen of the sect's offices throughout Japan on suspicion of shady land deals on Kyushu. The director of the property company that arranged the land deals was also arrested, and warrants are out for two senior cult members.

Mr Asahara, the tubby, bearded leader

of the sect, has been in police sights but out of their grasp ever since detectives questioned him last year about the disappearance of Tsutsumi Sakamoto, a lawyer who fought for families that have lost children to the cult.

Mr Sakamoto, his wife and baby son vanished from their home in Yokohama last November and have not been seen since. Police found a badge of Mr Asahara's sect on the floor of the Sakamotos' empty house, but the guru says he knows nothing of the case.

Mr Asahara, who claims he predicted the police raid, was not arrested. He said: "It is possible the police will now arrest me. Globally expanding religions have always been oppressed by the powers that be."

He is spurned by fellow Buddhist sects and by other religious groups, who cringe at his antics. The preacher, aged 35, became even more notorious last February when he ran unsuccessfully for parliament in a general election. He claims to be able to levitate, and to hold

his breath and meditate for hours under water. Photographs are the outside world's only proof, and darkroom experts say the pictures are clumsy photocopies.

But mockery in the media and the constraints of Japan's strait-laced middle class have not deterred those young Japanese looking for a meaning in life from paying a million yen (about £4,000) for Mr Asahara's course in yoga meditation and psychic power. The price includes a swig of the guru's blood, although not all his followers seem able to swallow the sales pitch.

One disenchanted former disciple said: "Though we did not see the blood being taken from the master, they handed out a small wine glass containing three to four teaspoonful of blood to each of us. It had no effect. I could not get the power."

"I decided to leave the cult when they asked me to write a will saying that all my property would go to the cult if I died."



John Rae

## One over the eight at nine

Last Christmas, a 14-year-old girl died after drinking a bottle of brandy during a party at a friend's house, unsupervised by adults. The tragedy was avoidable, but no law was broken.

In America, the legal drinking age is 21; in Britain it is five. That will surprise many people, who think it is illegal to drink under the age of 18. It is illegal for someone under 18 to buy or be sold alcohol, but from the age of five a child can lawfully possess or consume alcohol anywhere except on licensed premises.

Most people start drinking before they are 14. Do we approve or disapprove? The confusion is manifest in a variety of ways. The most visible are the "accident of teetotalism" headlines that greet every survey of young people's drinking behaviour. But nowhere in the reports is there any hint that we might be wrong to let them drink at all.

Apparently we want children to be free to consume alcohol from the age of five, but when they find it difficult to handle, we look around for a scapegoat. If they drink too much too soon, it must be someone else's fault for encouraging them. The popular scapegoat is alcohol advertising. By calling for a ban on alcohol advertising, the MASH report on young people and alcohol sidesteps the question of whether the legal drinking age should be raised. But if the children need to be protected from such advertising, are they mature enough to use the product advertised? Are we worried only by misuse of alcohol by young people, or is there an age below which we think they should not drink at all?

Those who argue for the status quo say a higher legal drinking age would be unenforceable, and that the matter is best left to parents' discretion. To prohibit alcohol until the mid or late teens would, they say, give it the attraction of forbidden fruit, encouraging over-indulgence when the legal age is reached. Far better, the argument runs, to bring up our children with a little wine and water over Sunday lunch so that they learn how to handle alcohol under parental supervision.

I used to find this argument convincing, but now I have doubts. This is not because alcohol consumption by under-18s is increasing, but because I think parents' willingness to exercise responsible discretion is decreasing. The idea that parents use the wine-and-water approach to teach children to drink sensibly is, I suspect, part of middle-class mythology.

An increase in the legal drinking age would be difficult to enforce — not least because we have been so inconsistent in our approach to the law prohibiting the purchase of alcohol by young people — but it would have definite advantages. As the MASH report points out, the law "can be an important

signal of society's attitude". The present law signals adult ambivalence. It would be much better to give a clear signal that we believe there is an age below which individuals are too immature to drink.

If the legal drinking age were raised to, say, 16, parents' role would be clarified. They would be held responsible if their children possessed or consumed alcohol. That would strengthen the parents' hand when young teenagers holding a party asked if they could have alcoholic drink. It would simply be illegal.

It would also be illegal to provide alcohol for a person under 16. At a boarding school earlier this year, pupils aged 14 and 15 paid a local taxi-driver to buy drink for them. The taxi-driver was not breaking the law because the pupils were well above the legal drinking age.

The age was set at five in 1908. The idea was to protect very young children, but Parliament did not intend the law to imply approval of drinking by older children and teenagers. For more than 50 years, the social convention was that whatever the law allowed, young people did not drink until their late teens. There were occasional exceptions, but by and large, those of us who grew up before 1960 did not have access to alcohol in childhood and youth.

What stopped us was not the absence of advertising, as Lady Masham would like to believe — "My goodness, my Guinness" was part of the wallpaper — or our comparative poverty, but the attitude of adults, who disapproved. And we knew they disapproved.

Now, adults may still disapprove, but they are much less willing to translate disapproval into action. East Glasgow health council claimed recently that "primary school children have gone back to school drunk after lunchtime". It called for strong measures, but not for the sanction that would have sprung to mind 25 years ago — that headteachers should exercise more effective discipline.

I believe the legal drinking age should be 16, while the legal age for purchasing alcohol should remain 18. It should be an offence not to sell alcohol to a person under 18 but to give alcohol to a person under 16. Parents should be held responsible if their children possess or consume alcohol. These changes should be supported by greater emphasis on alcohol in health education.

These proposals will not be popular, because they call society's bluff. If we think it is appropriate that children and young teenagers should drink, we should stop complaining when they do. If we think it inappropriate, we should change the law to reflect our conviction.

The author, formerly Head Master of Westminster School, is now director of the Portman Group.

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

It is good that this column bears no headline beyond the "and moreover..." trademark. We columnist are an odd bunch and need a catchy corporate logo to unite us. But this essay does have a title: "I Sell My First Book".

It happened last Saturday lunchtime, at the lounge bar of the Midland Hotel, Derby.

The Midland has now been restored to its early-Victorian elegance and become a pleasant oasis amid the railway sidings. Nearly a century and a half has intervened since Victoria herself dined there, famously, on "Les cotelettes de mouton" and "Tartaretes de confiture"; the menu is still proudly displayed in the carpeted hallway. It is easy to forget the basis of such wealth, which is illustrated by a sign not a hundred yards from the hotel foyer: "British Rail Engineering Ltd., Bogie Manufacturers to the World".

The carpeted hush was interrupted by me, my interviewer, and his tape-recorder.

We made an engaging pair. Geoffrey Hammersley, of the *Derby Evening Telegraph*, and I. Geoff had lost his voice, and was rasping in a manner that suggested a bit-part in a pornographic phone-line. I, having almost forgotten our rendezvous, was wearing a scruffy T-shirt and jeans that have torn knees; not because George Michael's jeans do, but because I cannot sew. I had left my cashcard in London, and had with me £4.36 for the weekend.

Geoff was to interview me on the eve of publication of my first book. He bought drinks. I calculated that if I bought the next, that would leave £2.57. At first I tried whispering, too, to reassure him. The barmaid eyed us suspiciously when we whispered to her about pale ale and nuts. As I in my torn trousers and Geoff clutching his tape-recorder and copy of *Inca-Kola*, tramped into the lounge, she seemed to contemplate summoning help, then decided we were harmless.

The interview went well. The book is a light-hearted account of my escapades in Peru, and formality evaporated as I recounted more adventures. I babbled away, Hammersley croaked, and the tape-recorder whirled. We were alone.

Or almost. Across the room were three diners. I now know them to have been Mr and Mrs Powrie-Smith, and a chap I take to have been their son.

It is easy in a noisy room to ignore extraneous conversation; but in this silence, broken only by my account of prostitution along the gold-rush tributaries of the Amazon, and Geoff's stage whisper, it was impossible. Poor Mr and Mrs Powrie-Smith's quiet snack was wrecked. I went over to apologise.

"Oh no!" said Mr Powrie-Smith. "We were fascinated."

"In fact," said Mr Powrie-Smith, "we were wondering if we could buy a copy of your book? You don't by any chance have one in that bag, do you? Perhaps we could ask you to sign one for us?"

They meant it! I did have one copy — just one. But it was my own and only copy.

"Not really," I said. "But you could always write to Weidenfeld and Nicolson..." I began to give the address, then faltered. It seemed such a mean response to their kind interest. I reached into my bag.

"Here," I said. "I do have just this one..."

But what about the money? The generous thing, surely, was to refuse payment? On the other hand, there was my little problem of the £2.57... Mr Powrie-Smith solved it.

"Take this," he said, holding out a £20 note. I found I had grabbed it before even considering how a writer is supposed to behave in this situation.

"I owe you a fiver," I said. "Towards your second book." Mrs Powrie-Smith nodded approvingly, glancing at the holes in my jeans. Their son smiled. I signed my book, said goodbye to Geoff, thanked them profusely, and left.

One of my brothers says that when he told Dad (an engineer) that he wanted to be a pilot, Dad said: "Good. You'll be the only one with a proper job."

Stepping, now, from the portico of the Midland Hotel, I fingered the £22.57 in my pocket, thought "What was that, again, Dad?", broke into a run, and leapt, unexpectedly, into the air.

# December dateline for battle

Peter Stothard, US editor, reports on Bush's tougher policy as more American troops are sent to the Gulf



Time's message catches up with American paratroops at an outpost near the border with Iraq

Thousands of American troops in Germany can give up their hopes of a quick return home. Instead of picking yellow ribbons off the oak trees of Arkansas, they will be collecting iron rations from a quartermaster in the Saudi desert.

The acceleration of the build-up in the Gulf has taken even the military by surprise. American troops in Germany may not be the fittest in the world, but as President Bush prepares to raise the level of forces in the Gulf to around 300,000, their last days abroad look increasingly likely to include their first days of real fighting.

Early next week the defence secretary, Richard Cheney, meets his senior military adviser, General Colin Powell, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, to plan the details of the reinforcement, which could be up to 100,000 men. Operation Desert Shield, already the fastest American build-up since Vietnam, is about to set new logistical records.

According to State Department sources, James Baker, the secretary of state, is planning a tour of the Gulf next week to ensure the maximum solidarity of the American-led alliance if shots have to be fired. In the past two days, senior officials, including the CIA director, William Webster, have heightened their rhetoric against Iraq, suggesting that the removal of Saddam Hussein is now a clear American aim.

For almost three months American policy has run on the twin tracks of military preparedness and diplomatic initiative, but the White House has decided that diplomacy has led to a playing down of the military option. Saddam appears to believe that time is still on his side and that if he raises the cost of American action by reinforcing Kuwait, and keeps trying to splinter the anti-Iraq alliance, he will prevail.

President Bush is determined that American military power in the region will at least match the diplomatic effort. The principal aim of sending further troops is to show that America retains the option of winning back Kuwait by force. The second aim is to fill military gaps exposed by the first weeks in the desert and to increase the armoured strength of the US

army. A third is to extend the delay before full military readiness is clearly achieved, so allowing the United Nations its best chance either to bring a peaceful settlement or to give further support for war.

There has been no official change of policy — the American engine is still on its twin tracks — but the sounds of war are louder than they have been since the middle of August.

A date around the end of the first week in December is now seen as the new earliest "working target" for an assault. By then the American forces should be sufficient to fight a land battle for Kuwait with a minimum level — albeit still substantial — of casualties.

The November elections will have been and gone and broader UN cover for military action will probably have been secured.

Most critically in the administration's eyes, the Saudi Arabian government is pressing Washington to show more determination. Yesterday it was reported that Mr Baker will soon seek Saudi permission to launch a first strike on Iraq. If he does, the request is likely to be a formality, for King Fahd is believed to want his allies to make best use of the winter months, when the weather is favourable for a desert war. He is reportedly determined that the war be over and American forces in Saudi Arabia reduced to a minimum by the time of the

pilgrimages to Mecca and Medina in June.

There was concern earlier this week that Saudi Arabia might be softening its position. But officials now believe that it too must be seen to have a diplomatic as well as a military posture. Last week's "compromise" suggestions by the Saudi defence minister are interpreted predominantly as a diplomatic voice directed towards the Arab world.

The State Department cannot rule out the possibility of a significant split in opinion within the Saudi royal family. But the Saudi embassy in Washington has been urging that only principled adherence to the commitment to restore the government and terri-

tory of Kuwait is acceptable. Prince Bandar, the Saudi ambassador, has taken an increasingly hawkish position. He said yesterday he was "not optimistic" about the chances of a peaceful outcome.

Some observers believe that American commitments to Saudi Arabia, given in return for the original permission to base US forces on Saudi soil, include the downfall of Saddam Hussein and the destruction of his chemical and nuclear forces.

Any American attack is still likely to begin with the kind of air assault described last month by the then air force chief, Mike Dugan. His loose tongue about attacks on Saddam and his mistress may have brought him disapproval, but his thinking is still the centrepiece of American strategy.

Civilian casualties need not, it is said, be as extensive as Dugan suggested. But America still hopes that if the Iraqi air force can be destroyed on the ground and the Iraqi officer class can be convinced of allied air superiority, a street-by-street recapture of Kuwait will be made unnecessary by an anti-Saddam coup.

Yet the Pentagon is determined that the wherewithal for an efficient storming of Kuwait will be ready on the Saudi border and in the regional air and naval forces. It also wants more artillery to deal with the recent improvements in Iraq's air and land defences in Kuwait. "Saddam must know that he cannot frighten us into a policy that rules out a land attack," said a Pentagon official.

The Bush administration has backed its argument for greater forces with intensifying rhetoric about the "rape of Kuwait" and, in particular, the treatment of American hostages. The safe-guarding of American lives in the human shield is still the most likely cause belli, officials believe.

But the danger of Iraq lashing out from its corner is still occupying minds in the administration. Mr Cheney said on Thursday that Israel might be a target in such circumstances. America is anxious to have sufficient forces to deter and counter such an assault, which, although almost certainly suicidal for Iraq, might leave the region a political wreck for decades to come.

Nikolai Tolstoy accuses Cowgill of distortion over the forcible return of the Cossacks

## Damned by Macmillan's own diary

Daniel Johnson's article "Macmillan: a vindication that came too late" (*The Times*, October 19) claims that publication of the Cowgill enquiry into the circumstances of the repatriation of Cossacks and Yugoslav citizens from Austria in 1945 proves incontrovertibly that charges against the former prime minister were from the outset groundless. The case I presented, he alleges, was based solely on malice, and I should apologise accordingly. I am certainly prepared to apologise as abjectly as would be appropriate were I to be persuaded that the matter indeed stands as represented by Mr Johnson. However, I do not see that this is in any way the case, and will briefly explain why.

My principal charge against Macmillan is readily set out. Among the Cossacks repatriated by force or lies were several thousand Russian émigré soldiers and refugees who had been living in Western Europe since the revolution of 1917. The Soviets were desperate to lay their hands on the émigrés, but Allied policy rigorously prohibited the repatriation of these people against their will. Though Macmillan was informed of their presence (though not of their precise numbers), he provided General Keightley, the British commander on the spot, with a "verbal directive" to deliver all Cossacks without discrimination to the Soviets.

Because the directive was so clearly in violation of Allied policy, Keightley thereafter consistently concealed from higher command both the presence of the émigrés and the fact that they were being handed over. Was it the evidence for this? Clearly, I can do no more here than indicate a few of the premises. Up to the eve of Macmillan's visit to 5th Corps on May 13, 1945, when he urged Keightley to return the Cossacks, the general had shown himself hostile in word and deed to the idea of sending back any Cossacks — least of all the émigrés with foreign passports. Shortly afterwards, his viewpoint suffered a sea-change, when he decided to flout clear orders from his superiors not to use force to repatriate Soviet citizens. At no time was higher command informed that it was intended to flout both these rulings.

In the event, thousands of non-force being employed wherever necessary against men, women, children and even babies. All this was in flat contradiction of orders, and surely requires some explanation, as does the extent to which Keightley went out of his way to frustrate the vigorous efforts of Generals Alexander and Eisenhower to evacuate all the Cossacks to safety with the American army.

Essentially there are two feasible alternatives. Did Keightley undertake these motiveless, profitless,

dis honourable and inhumane actions out of sadism or bloody-mindedness? Or did Macmillan's "advice" adduce sufficient political considerations to persuade an able but intellectually limited commander to undertake actions no British officer would normally contemplate? The only reason provided by General Keightley at the time for sending the Cossacks to the Soviets rather than to the Americans was the "verbal directive" from Macmillan to Corps Commander.

For reasons of space it is impossible to do more than indicate the direct evidence for Macmillan's complicity, while reminding readers of his extraordinarily evasiveness on the subject, both at the time and later. Though the "advice" or "verbal directive" to hand over all the Cossacks was the only recorded decision made during his conference with Keightley, Macmillan appears to have avoided mentioning it in his report to the Foreign Office two days later. After 1974 he repeatedly declined either to see me, or to avail himself of repeated opportunities to correct my writings before publication. Others, including his son Maurice, encountered similar obduracy. Yet if his involvement was as marginal or non-existent as Mr Johnson claims, he ought to have said as much, publicly or privately?

What is one to make of Macmillan's private admissions to his biographer, Alistair Horne, when they are isolated from the surrounding passages of commentary? "I may well have said 'we'd better send them all back'... Quite possibly we did send back the White Russians, by mistake..." Save for the "by mistake", is this not in essence the major part of what I allege?

I conclude with a passage taken from page 63 of the Cowgill enquiry, which conveniently illustrates both Macmillan's equivocal behaviour in 1945 and what I regard as the flawed arguments of his defenders today. Much of the enquiry's defence of Macmillan is based on his supposed openness at the time about his treatment of the Cossacks. Yet he was not candid. Only by inserting a sentence from Macmillan's private diary into a public document has the report managed to make this case. Let me explain.

Five days after his visit to Keightley, Macmillan reported to the War Secretary that there was "in Austria one British Corps... charged with... dealing with the White Russians and Cossacks, together with their wives and families, serving these German forces". Although Macmillan had decided (with Keightley) that they should all be handed over to the Soviets, he omits mention of the fact — which seems a little strange, if all was in accordance with government policy, and given the government's need to know how

these grave problems were being resolved. One might think this piece of evidence an obstacle to the Cowgill report's argument in support of Macmillan's openness with his colleagues and superiors in everything to do with the handovers. But what do we find? After the words "these German forces", the report adds the sentence "We have decided to hand them over". There follows a vigorously argued paragraph claiming that this is strong evidence of Macmillan's candour towards his colleagues.

But the sentence "We have decided to hand them over" is nowhere to be found in the original document, and has been taken from Macmillan's private diary entry for May 13. Regrettably, this is not the sole occasion where the enquiry has overstated its case on the basis of arguments that cannot be sustained by the evidence.

Mr Johnson may well be satisfied with this approach to historiography, but I fear few professional historians will share his equanimity. I certainly do not feel inclined to do so, nor do I intend to follow the implications of his or Cowgill's contention, which implicitly seems to attribute responsibility for the monstrous crime of 1945 to the wholly guileless figures of Churchill, Alexander, McCleery, Mark Clark, and other honourable and chivalrous statesmen and soldiers.

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Topolski, who is about to see his book, *True Blue*, turned into a feature film, should perhaps go to Manchester for the gala evening, along with the Princess of Wales, and give credit where it is at least partly due.

Unsightly Prospekt  
Not everything about glasnost is automatically good. The Moscow underground, almost every station of which is like a miniature art gallery with murals, mosaics and chandeliers, is being disfigured by illuminated posters advertising

prestige advertising sites in the Soviet Union. The Moscow underground sites are magnificent.

Quite. So will the advertising not ruin it? The sites have been chosen with advice from Russian architects," says Webster. "They are not meant to disturb the main architectural features." One can't wait until they start on Red Square.

Until Irish presidential candidate Brian Lenihan was accused of being economical with the truth, the highlight of a lacklustre election campaign had been the speculation about his health after a successful liver transplant last year. One Dublin editor demanded publication of Lenihan's full medical report. Lenihan's official spokesman agreed, provided the editor's medical records were also opened to public view. The outcome: silence.

So bad for the pride

Opera lovers at the Coliseum last night for Busoni's *Dr Faust* were vividly reminded of the English National Opera's cash crisis. During the performance, a spotlight was trained on the giant plaster lions above the stage, and even those without opera glasses could see they were caked in dust.

Peter Jones, managing director of the ENO, looks forward to the time when he can afford to have the lions professionally dusted. "Their poor golden heads are now grey," he says, "but cleaning is an expensive process, involving the erection of lots of scaffolding. At night I dream of golden lions with cash pouring out of them."



## DIARY

and on the other William Cash, a vehement opponent of a federal Europe. A Tory insider says: "It's the centricities versus the fanatics. They won't be able to agree on a thing." A precursor, perhaps, of the intergovernmental conference a month later, which will pit Mrs Thatcher against the rest.

### Pulling power

Welf-deserved tributes will be heaped on Dame Alicia Markova at an 80th birthday gala performance in Manchester next month, but will her role in helping to ensure Oxford's Boat Race dominance be among them?

Competing in lightweight events at Henley in the 1970s, Daniel Topolski was a house guest, with Dame Alicia, of the ballerina's sister, Bunny Kemner. Anxious that he and other members of his four lose weight but keep up their strength, he sought advice from Dame Alicia. She recommended her own high-fibre diet, strong on raisins, nuts and roughage. He and his fellow crew adopted it, and won the silver. The next year they won the

gold. Then followed Oxford's long string of successes with Topolski as coach.

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السلامة





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## UNLASHED FROM THE MAST

The song of the Sirens is now enveloping the ship of Mrs Thatcher's cabinet and she appears to have run out of rope and of beeswax. For the past few weeks, she and her colleagues have watched recession loom over the horizon, abandoned the faith and grabbed at the dusty old nostrums about wage restraint that Whitehall keeps in reserve for panicky ministers. Now the Trades Union Congress has picked up the refrain. If ministers want exemplary wage restraint, the TUC, according to yesterday's *Times*, will offer it, provided ministers offer employment protection in return.

After more than a decade of estrangement, the TUC's old corporatist yearning to cohabit with government remains overpowering. From the moment John Major and the employment secretary, Michael Howard, began reciting Lord Callaghan's 1979 pay-restraint speeches last summer, the TUC could no longer restrain itself. Next week it will put forward a possible deal to the National Economic Development Council, itself a relic of the old days. Faced with predictions that the recession could cost 500,000 jobs, the TUC is ready to offer "responsibility" on wages following entry into the European exchange-rate mechanism, if the government will respond. Mentioned are infrastructure support, investment in job creation and even a "Europe-wide system of collective bargaining". The TUC spots a weakening of the cabinet's non-interventionist ideology. At least, it says, let us talk.

Anybody capable of recalling the state of the British economy in the 1970s, especially Edward Heath's incomes policy of 1972 and Labour's abortive social contract, will greet this with a hollow laugh. While Mr Heath achieved a measure of wage restraint through statutory fiat, imposed by civil servants, Labour's social contract with the unions soon collapsed into the winter of discontent. The TUC could not deliver. Even where individual trade unions ignored their duty to their members and promised restraint, their members showed them the door. Workers do not join unions because they want them to implement government macroeconomic policy, let alone clean up when policy fails.

## LIGHT, LIBERTY AND LEARNING

The chaos that has descended upon universities with the collapse of their new financing system is an accident that has been waiting to happen since the heady and heedless days of expansion of the 1960s. Blame for the immediate shambles can be laid equally at the doors of the universities and their new funding council, but the roots lie in unrealistic aspirations and weak management over a quarter of a century. The failed "bidding" exercise has merely exposed a truth that has long been evident but seldom admitted: that Britain cannot afford to match its overseas competitors on participation in higher education if all universities are centrally financed to the standard of an Oxford or Cambridge.

Conflicting pressures have been building up in the universities for some time. There is an inevitable tension between the desire to expand access to higher education and the obligation, keenly and properly felt in universities, to preserve academic standards. The consensus needed to strike a balance between the two objectives has been found in the polytechnic sector — now much beloved of ministers — but has been spectacularly absent from the Universities Funding Council (UFC) and from its dealings with its constituents.

The universities showed where their instincts lay in responding to the shortages of the early 1980s by hauling up the drawbridge and restricting further entry. Different times and higher fees have since encouraged them to take the opposite approach, but old attitudes are never far beneath the surface, especially where the limits of existing plant and staffing are in sight.

With hindsight, a system that required so famously cautious a group as the vice chancellors to entrust the whole of the next four years' grant to an untried bidding procedure was doomed to failure. Pricing courses too low in an attempt to undercut rivals could have caused serious and lasting damage, so sticking to the UFC's guide price

Unions are about bargaining the pay and security for those who pay them to do so.

Even more suspicious than the evidence of revived "responsibility" on the part of the unions is the irresponsibility of ministers. Leading Tories under the last Labour government, notably Sir Geoffrey Howe, were vocal in condemning ministers who told private managers how to run their businesses. They said that government should confine itself to controlling inflation and reforming the supply side of the economy. Passing the buck for failing to do this was not acceptable.

Passing the buck today, after 11 years in office, is even less so. Messrs Major and Howard seem to have forgotten all they were taught in the Tory academies of early Thatcherism. Their speeches on wage restraint are unvarnished interference, mercifully not yet backed by statute, in managerial discretion. So far, the unions and managers have turned a deaf ear. They know that if they demand or receive too much, they will lose profit or lose work. They do not need politicians on state salaries and indexed pensions to tell them so.

Now they find not just ministers but also the TUC on their backs, demanding they ignore the rules of the market and set their sights on "coming in below" some global norm, target or going rate. And the more they turn a deaf ear, the more inclined government and TUC will be to collude with each other to add enforcement to their exhortations. Here lies the merry road to chaos, which the British have so often trodden before.

The TUC's succumbing to nostalgia is perhaps understandable: it has had nothing to do for over a decade. For ministers there is less excuse. They should concentrate on setting their own sector in order. Average private sector earnings between April 1988 and April 1990 rose by 21 per cent; in central government, pay conceded by Mr Major, Mr Howard and others, rose by 24 per cent. Mr Thatcher should ban ministerial talk of private sector wage restraint until the members of her cabinet have removed the beams from their own eyes.

for courses (as almost all did) was the obvious strategy. The polytechnics' funding council succeeded in encouraging a little more adventure by putting only 10 per cent of an institution's budget at risk, guaranteeing that the rest will be allocated outside the bidding process.

Some similar refinement may yet be possible for the universities, but it will not alter the fundamental mismatch shown up in the bidding exercise. The vice chancellors argue that they cannot maintain standards at lower prices; the UFC knows that it must deliver expansion with only a marginal increase in resources. Any government is going to want more higher education over the remainder of the century. No government, though, is likely to have the money to keep universities in the manner to which they have been accustomed.

The unavoidable conclusion is that all universities can no longer be regarded as equal in teaching and research, and superior to all polytechnics. The binary line that has divided the sectors cannot last, but its demise must lead to more selectivity, not less. There is at least as much difference between the top research universities and their lesser brethren as between the leading polytechnics and the average university. Disraeli's definition of a university as a place of light, liberty and learning is not inconsistent with an institution that concentrates on teaching, in the manner of many of the American state universities, rather than hanging on to a research status that is neither affordable nor efficient.

To ascribe such long-term objectives to the UFC in taking the action it did would be too generous. The council still appears to have little idea of how it will approach the task of medium-term planning. Yet if the eventual result of this week's debacle is to hasten a reform of university policy in Britain, the million sheets of paper that reportedly went into the bidding exercise will not have been wasted.

## A DRAGON DORMANT

The treatment of Wales is a useful test of the prime minister's attitude towards "subsidiarity", the principle that nothing should be decided by a higher instance which may be better regulated by a lower one. Within the United Kingdom, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are good cases in point. Plaid Cymru, the Welsh nationalist party, is this week demanding at its conference in Cardiff that the Principality, like such counterparts as the Bavarian Free State, deserves greater autonomy. The demand is neither lunatic nor "fringe". It deserves serious consideration.

The fate of the Welsh has been linked to that of England ever since Edward I built his magnificent castles from Harlech to Flint. But if Welsh nationalism sometimes has a ridiculous side, it still represents a real feeling of regional identity rooted in a common culture, geography and history, and quite distinct from that of England. While this identity may seem to the English — and to Whitehall — less detached than that of Scotland and Northern Ireland, the Welsh secretary, David Hunt, would be foolish to ignore it. Wales has votes. Mr Hunt's party may find itself submerged by a hostile flood from beyond Offa's Dike, a flood which has already swept the impetuous of Islwyn to the brink of power.

Europe has long been the battleground of regional nationalisms, from Basques to Flemings, from Corsicans to Serbians, from Languedoc to Schleswig-Holstein. Such nationalism often displays an artificiality which may excite the ridicule of distant majorities. As the anthropologist, Julian Pitt-Rivers, has suggested, local "notables" whose role as intermediaries between the centre and the periphery is threatened by modern

communications, may try to resurrect barriers between the capital and the regions as a way of restoring their own status. The result can be linguistic intolerance, local chauvinism and even violence, which have little to do with tradition.

Yet the cause for which Plaid Cymru pleads is not merely the forlorn of an educated élite. While the Welsh language should not be used as an ethnic barrier to exclude outsiders, active steps to protect it from decay are perfectly in order. Bilingualism is an enriching phenomenon. The Welsh should be given every opportunity, short of compulsion, to preserve their cultural topsoil from steady erosion.

Governments have regularly bought off the Welsh by loading them with infrastructure projects and regional grants. Yet the test of a sympathetic regional policy is constitutional rather than financial: it is the principle of subsidiarity. Within a United Kingdom, and indeed within a European Community, in which the free movement of persons is a central freedom, the Welsh cannot expect to keep Wales to themselves. But they are entitled to a more dignified form of rule than that of colonial administrators from London.

They should have greater self-government, with a measure of ministerial accountability to a locally elected assembly in Cardiff. It would be hypocrisy for Britain to protest about the threat of European federalism in Rome this weekend, yet ignore the demand for greater subsidiary sovereignty from the component nations of the United Kingdom. Nationalism is never dead. It is merely dormant, ready to rise up when stupid governments ignore or insult regional cultures. Few cultures warrant energetic solicitude as much as the Welsh.

## Disasters, damages and responsibility

From Dr J. R. Waldram

Sir, Mr Justice Turner's ruling in the *Herald of Free Enterprise* manslaughter case (report, October 20) raises again the disturbing question of attitudes to professional responsibility. To have ruled that the degree of negligence fell short of that required for a verdict of manslaughter would have been understandable. But to rule that there was "no direct evidence that any of the five senior defendants would have perceived the risk was obvious" is surely surprising.

This is the point which the Attorney General now has under consideration.

In the Clapham rail disaster (report, September 11) it seems that engineers allowed a new signalling system to be installed by badly supervised and exhausted men working excessive overtime, and knew that the installation had not been properly tested.

In the Kegworth air crash (report, October 19) some blame clearly attaches to the pilot and co-pilot. Nevertheless, judging by their repeated cockpit conversations, there must be considerable doubt whether they had ever been exposed to training which adequately emphasised the extreme importance of not shutting down the wrong engine of a two-engine aircraft.

In both these cases some of the blame surely attaches to engineers, managers or other professionals who failed to take advance action to prevent tragedies which a competent professional could and should have foreseen.

Are we forgetting in the nineties what standards have to be applied if professional responsibility is to be maintained?

Yours faithfully,  
J. R. WALDRAM,  
Pembroke College,  
Cambridge,  
October 26.

## No-fault insurance

From the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers

Sir, I was pleased to see that the Law Society's conference (report, October 22) has been considering no-fault schemes for the victims of medical mishaps. Such schemes are of considerable interest to a much wider group of professions, particularly those operating in the construction industry. The need to prove fault before compensation can be awarded can result in much delay and injustice, as was amply demonstrated in the recent Abbeystead explosion case.

It took four years from the explosion at Abbeystead which killed and injured a number of people before a final settlement was reached in 1988 on appeal. During that process the trial judge divided the responsibility between the engineering consultants who

had designed the works, the contractors who carried them out and the water authority that operated them. Of the three Court of Appeal judges one held that no one was liable; the majority decided that the consultants were 100 per cent liable.

From the engineers' point of view such a variety of conflicting decisions is hardly satisfactory. From the victims' angle the uncertainty and delay is even less so. A national no-fault system of insurance for third-party claims in respect of death or personal injury arising from defects in design or construction, providing it is properly and carefully worked out, would be a much better solution.

Yours etc.,  
P. F. STOTT,  
President, The Institution of Civil Engineers,  
Great George Street, SW1,  
October 24.

## Tramping tourists

From Mr Stuart Sexton

Sir, The Diary (October 20) suggests we might have to take off our shoes to save the excessive wear of millions of feet over the floors of St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. Visions of thousands looking for their left shoe afterwards!

In the palaces around Leningrad the tourist is required to slip on heavy duty, elasticated cloth overshoes before trudging over the marble floors. It works very well there. It could work here in England. It certainly saves the floors.

Yours faithfully,  
STUART SEXTON (Director),  
Independent Primary and Secondary Education Trust,  
Warrington Park School,  
Chesham Common,  
Warrington, Surrey,  
October 23.

## Hindley release

From the Archbishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Sir, I may console Bernard Levin (October 15) to know that each time there is an outbreak of righteousness against Lord Longford and Myra Hindley I have used the opportunity to remind my congregation about the Christian claim that repentance and amendment of life are possible, even for the likes of Miss Hindley.

I do not claim to have the same level of moral courage as Lord Longford, the "laiboid" custodians of theology and ethics are not even remotely interested in what I say, but I would suggest that I am not alone and that if Mr Levin were to conduct some kind of survey he might find that many thousands of ordinary, uninteresting parish priests have used the

same opportunity to say exactly the same thing.

It may be that Miss Hindley will have to spend the rest of her life in custody, not least for her own safety, but I am quite prepared to accept that she is no longer the monster she was when she committed her terrible deeds.

Miss Hindley's significance lies not only in the horror of the crimes she committed, but also in the fact that she has touched a raw nerve, exposing the beast that lies within all of us. That is why she is so frightening, and that is why society is unable to contemplate her release.

Yours etc.,  
MICHAEL H. G. MAYER,  
The Rectory,  
Glennmore,  
Co. Cork, Ireland.

## Pregnant superstars

From the Deputy Director-General of the CBI

Sir, Despite its beguiling headline, "Europe's pregnant superstars", your article in "Life and Times" (October 10) gave a disappointing account of the background to the EC draft directive on the protection of pregnant women at work. EC employers are committed to ensuring the highest practicable standards of health and safety at the workplace, including the conditions of work of pregnant women. But it is EC employers, not just those in the UK, who have expressed a measure of surprise and concern at Mrs Vasso Papandreu's latest brainwave.

The problem is two-fold. To the extent that the provisions of the draft directive are arguably health and safety-related, the scientific evidence of the need for remedy is

scant. We really should not be forced to contemplate EC instruments offering prescriptions unless also persuaded that there is indeed an illness to be treated.

Second, many of the directive's provisions smack suspiciously not of health and safety protection but of employee rights: leave and payment arrangements, for example. The relationship with health and safety becomes indirect, even tenuous. The Treaty of Rome distinguishes between "employees' rights and interests" and "health and safety". So too should our Social Affairs Commissioner (Mrs Papandreu).

The CBI is far from complacent. Few firms can afford to ignore the contribution that women can

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Financial strains on family life

From Mrs Annemieke Lines

Sir, The debate about child benefit increases ignores the fact that there has been an enormous shift in financial resources over the last generation from families supporting children to the single, the childless and those whose children are no longer dependent upon them.

Raising a family (whether on one or two incomes) imposes heavy costs on parents and these are certainly not confined to the first five years of the child's life. Having children is not a private consumer choice in which the state and society have no interest. Even today's affluent childless couples will depend for their standard of living in old age upon the productivity and taxes of our children.

Child benefit (replacing both family allowances and child tax allowances) is the only recognition our fiscal system gives to the costs of child rearing. The "married couple's" allowance goes to every married man, irrespective of whether he has children, and a non-working wife cannot transfer her personal allowance to her husband, thus boosting net family income.

The failure to up-rate child benefit regularly in line with inflation means that the relative position of families with children gets steadily worse. Paying an increase only to the first child is unfair to larger families, many of whom are particularly hard-pressed.

Given the lack of fiscal support for families in the United Kingdom (in stark contrast with the position in many of our European

Community partners), is it any wonder that families are coming under increasing strain, that we enjoy record levels of family breakdown and divorce and that lower-income families are often reluctant to encourage their children to continue full-time education beyond 16?

A. LINES  
(Executive committee member,  
Family and Youth Concern),  
38 South Vale,  
Upper Norwood, SE19,  
October 24.

From the Director of the National Council for One Parent Families

Sir, In the midst of the debate about the £1 increase in child benefit it has largely gone unnoticed that Tony Newton has announced that one-parent benefit is to be frozen at £5.00. This benefit is paid in recognition of the additional financial difficulties faced by lone parents, whose average income is only one third that of two-parent families. The failure to up-rate it appears to contradict the government's claim to be targeting the most needy.

One-parent benefit is not means-tested and is therefore of particular help to those lone parents who are struggling to come up with income support and may not work. As Mr Newton has often spoken about the importance of getting lone parents off benefit it seems to be particularly short-sighted not to increase this payment.

Yours faithfully,  
SUE SLIPMAN, Director,  
National Council for One Parent Families,  
255 Kenilworth Road, NW5,  
October 25.

### Plight of Falashas

From Mr R. Gale

Sir, Mr Andrew Lycett (report, October 17) declares that American Jewish organisations accused Israel of going slow on its policy of accepting the Jews of Ethiopia. He goes on to say that the Jewish Agency is establishing a permanent community of Jews in Addis Ababa rather than helping them on their way to Israel. These two statements are perfectly true.

Israel does not need and does not want Ethiopian Jews to come to Israel.

Last July I was a guest of former President Jimmy Carter at his estate in Atlanta a few days before he visited Ethiopia. I asked Mr Carter to intercede with President Mengistu to facilitate the exodus of the 18,000 Jews in Ethiopia.

On his return he told me that he had discussed the question with

President Mengistu who told him that he had made it clear to the Israeli authorities for some time that the whole of the Jewish community in Ethiopia could leave with all their possessions whenever they wished to do so, but that Israel was unwilling to receive them because they were old and sick, handicapped and disabled and illiterate and without any skills, and that priority was being given to emigrants from the Soviet Union who were able bodied and literate and skilled.

President Mengistu indicated that the attitude of the Israeli agency was that the Jews in Ethiopia had waited long enough and they could continue to wait some time longer.

Yours faithfully,  
R. GALE,  
Egerton Chambers,  
240 Stamford Hill, N16.

### Charity on the shelf

From Mr W. T. N. Chidgey

Sir, Mr Adrian Randall's regret (October 16) that the Charities Bill is to be shelved is not universally shared. I suspect that the Charity Finance Directors' Group represents mainly the larger national charities that have a Home Office exemption, and the White Paper on the regulation of charities in certain respects aimed to make things appreciably easier for such charities.

I am involved as a local treasurer for a group of supporters of one of the less large national charities which does not have such exemption. Apart from the very useful financial contribution, flag days and house-to-house collections are valuable to us in raising the profile of a charity whose objects do not catch the public attention.

As I read the White Paper, the chance of such activities will almost disappear as the exemption holders will effectively absorb all the time available by simply staking their claim as of right.

Yours faithfully,  
W. T. N. CHIDGEY,  
Kytes, 249 Winsley Road,  
Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

### Below par

From Mr Barry St Clair Alcock

Sir, After reading Alan Hamilton's report (October 15) on the new planning guidelines for golf courses, I am convinced that the members of the Council for the Protection of Rural England do not visit the same parts of golf courses that I do.

"Manicured, artificial landscape", forsooth. As any duffer knows, golf courses contain acres of unreconstructed jungle, blasted heath and whin bushes, inhabited by hyperkinetic rabbits manically constructing burrows for one's ball to get lost in.

I am, Sir, your highly handicapped servant,  
BARRY ST CLAIR ALCOCK,  
70 Bishop's Mansions,  
Bishop's Park Road, SW6,  
October 15.

make to their success and none should. Few firms pursue anything but high standards of health and safety at the workplace: here too, absolutely none should. We doubt, as our fellow EC employers doubt, if Mrs Papandreu's initiative has much to add to this.

If it is substantially amended, or if it falls, this will be because the governments of EC member states share our doubts. There would be a precedent. Just as your article was wrong in referring to a social charter "guaranteeing all EC workers a minimum wage and shorter hours" so it was wrong to repeat the myth that the UK alone blocked the earlier parental leave directive.

Yours faithfully,  
R. H. PRICE,  
Deputy Director-General,  
Confederation of British Industry,  
Centre Point,  
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.

### Game-show piracy

From Mr Peter Smith

Sir, Mr Richard Taylor (October 23), like the DTI and the Privy Council, quite misses the point when he says that the case of *Green v Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand* decided that there had been copying only of a mere idea.

*Opportunity Knocks* required years of development and a considerable amount of talent and financial backing before being first produced in 1939 for BBC Radio. It then ran on radio and television, world wide, for 29 years and created a host of stars.

So far as the DTI are concerned, Hughie Green (in common with Lord Willis in the House of Lords) was merely pointing out (October 12) an inconsistency. To refuse to recognise, and protect, the fruits of creative talent in the UK while paying American lawyers huge sums of money in respect of a character out of copyright since 1901 appears extraordinary.

Yours sincerely,  
PETER SMITH (Head of  
Programme Legal Services),  
Thames Television,  
306-316 Euston Road, NW1,  
October 24.

### 51 years on

From Professor Jan Janowski and Professor Wladyslaw Leskiewicz

Sir, Approaching the 51st anniversary of the arrest by the Gestapo of the professors of the Krakow Universities, including 21 professors of our Academy of Mining and Metallurgy, which took place on November 6, 1939, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your appreciation of that action expressed in the articles published on December 22, 1939, January 25, 1940, January 30, 1940, February 19, 1940 and March 1, 1940.

We assure you that the generations in Poland will remember your gesture of the appreciation of barbarity unacceptable in the civilized world. Remembering that *verba volant, scripta manent*, we would like to express our feeling so that such a disgraceful deed will never be repeated.

Yours etc.,  
JAN JANOWSKI,  
WACLAW LESKIEWICZ,  
Akademia Gorniczo-Hutnicza,  
IM St. Szczepana 2, Krakow,  
Al Mickiewicza 30,  
30-059 Krakow,  
Poland.

### Five easy pieces

From Mr J. Marshall-Chervert

Sir, My Swiss/English son is four and fluent in both English and French, though he has only just started to read. What set of five books would *Times* readers recommend and, apart from nursery rhymes, what five pieces of English music?

Yours sincerely,  
JON MARSHALL-CHERVERT,  
Faubourg,  
1786 Sugiez, Switzerland.















When Colleen McCullough is 80, you will recognise her easily. "I plan to terrify everyone to death, smoking black cigars and sitting with my legs apart, wearing pink bloomers. It is not my intention to be a sweet old lady," she said.

As she revealed this she was smoking "the mildest" cigarettes you can buy, and sitting quite decorously in a pair of baggy trousers under a baggy tunic. Ms McCullough is on the English leg of the publicity tour for her new novel, *The First Man in Rome*, the first of five chronicling the events leading to the fall of the Roman Republic.

*The First Man in Rome* is not (for anyone who might have feared or hoped for such a thing) much like *The Thorn Birds*, her most famous novel. Ms McCullough does not, like so many mega-selling writers, lay a series of identically shaped golden eggs to make life more easily profitable for herself and her publishers. This is an exhaustively researched work of what the Americans call fiction. Indeed, so thoroughly researched is it that the glossary alone runs to 100 pages.

The book is, at various stages, hard work, exciting, moving, sexy and extremely gory, and she wrote it, she said, because she wanted to write a historical novel and there was no other period in history that had not been done to death. "If I see one more book about King Arthur," she said, "I'll spew."

Writing has made Ms McCullough a great deal of money. In particular, writing *The Thorn Birds* has made her a great deal of money. "But when I made it, I vowed I would never let money rule me." Which would mean?

"Which would mean I started to write for money. And that would necessitate an endless run of *Road to Thorn Birds*, *Son of Thorn Birds*, *Thorn Birds Three*. And I wasn't going to do that. All my books have been totally different. And it would also mean taking the money seriously, which I cannot do. I have an agent who worries about it, but I don't."

Nevertheless, she is happy to have it. "I am one of Australia's richest women. All of the others have inherited their money, so I," she said, with a touch of justifiable pride, "am known as Australia's richest self-made woman." And what does it do for her, being so rich, having self-made all that money? "Not a lot," she said. "It doesn't make you any happier. And you get soaked all along the way, especially when you're on your own. If you buy

'I have a disciplined bottom; all nurses are trained to walk fast and not wiggle their bottoms'

variation. I don't think I ever discovered feminine conversation."

She was, she said, a confident child. "I just don't know why. They were always trying to slap me down. I was altogether confident, socially as well. I went to a very posh school, but I never felt inferior to any of the other girls, even the ones from rich families."

The posh school was a convent in Sydney, where she and her mother finally settled when she was 12. "I begged to go there, and she said, 'I can't afford it, so it's up to you'. I got a scholarship. I was always very ambitious. I just wanted to succeed at whatever I did, I didn't know what at."

This ambition did not extend to having children. "I always knew they would have retarded my career." Her one

## Renaissance man revisited

Colleen McCullough writes for pleasure but enjoys the profit. Penny Vincenzi meets Australia's richest self-made woman

a piece of land, have something done to the house, it's going to cost you twice as much if you're rich.

"But it's nice. To have your own money is wonderful. I always wanted to make my own money. I vowed to myself before I left school I would never in my life put myself in a position where I had to ask a man for a penny. And I married at an age and financial status where I did not have to ask my husband for anything. I just wasn't going to let myself care for anybody to the extent where I would have to marry them, and ask for the money for a pound of butter."

She developed this near phobia in childhood, when her mother was perpetually having to ask her father for money. "He was so mean and grudging. It was a very unhappy marriage." He worked on the sugar cane plantations. "He never housed my mother, she lived with her own people on the stations and they moved around the bush from one to another. It was a very nomadic existence. And I was the only female in my family for generations. There was no feminine influence in our household whatsoever. My mother had nine brothers, my grandmother 15. And either you sat there dumb at the table, or you participated in the masculine conversation. I don't think I ever discovered feminine conversation."

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clear ambition at this age was to be 6ft tall. "I wanted to look down on men. But I didn't make it."

She did make 5ft 10in, and is large with it. "But I do have a disciplined bottom. That was my nurse's training; all nurses are trained to walk very fast and purposefully and not wiggle their bottoms."

She nursed briefly, but was actually trained as a neurophysiologist at Yale, while she was there she wrote *Tim*, a novel about a handicapped young man, and then *The Thorn Birds*. This led to fame, fortune and a craving for privacy; and ultimately to Norfolk Island in the South Pacific, where she met and married, in 1984, Ric (full name Cedric, "and if you're going to be called Cedric, you'd better be 6ft 3in and 17 stone, which he is") Robinson.

He is a descendant of the Bounty mutineers, and is 13 years her junior. "But," she said, "actually he's much older than I am, a patriarchal figure." They met while he was painting her house, but this was an interim occupation while he waited 14 years or so for his 30 acre crop of rare Kentia palms to reach maturity. "When that does happen, he'll out-rich me."

He also, she said, "out-strongs" her. "He says, 'Hush your mouth, woman', and I shut up." (This is just a little hard to believe.) It was not love at first sight; two years elapsed between meeting and marriage. "I think that's the best way."

Now they live in Outyenna, a house and estate, on Norfolk Island — "it's like a small country, we support 25 families" — in somewhat oddball bliss. "I tuck him up every night at about nine or ten, and then I go to work." She works for ten, 12, sometimes 18 hours at a stretch. "Those are happy hours. I love it. I think all these writers who say they hate writing just want to make it appear more difficult. They think it sounds bad to say it's a

breeze." Was it a breeze for her? "Yes, sometimes it is. Sometimes it just goes. It's pure pleasure."

She is the very end of the line of her great, male dominated family. Her brother drowned 25 years ago. "It was frightful. Dreadful. The greatest grief I could ever face. We were best friends, only about 12 months apart, very attached to each other, more than to either parent. I came out the other end, but not without great difficulty. But that increased my confidence, that I could survive that."

So, here she is, at the age of 53, not quite at the black cigars and pink bloomer stage; successful, famous, seriously rich. She drew the illustrations for *The First Man in Rome* (which will be published on November 1 by Century, £14.99) and is writing the lyrics for a musical of *Tim*. Someone once called her a renaissance woman: "but I'm not. I'm renaissance man. Renaissance woman sat around doing embroidery and trying to please her man."

She is, she said, happy, hopeful, optimistic. What would she do if she lost all her money tomorrow? "Oh," she said, "I have a husband now. I would look to him." Isn't that cheating? "No it isn't," she said, "and I'll tell you something. He'd be as happy as a pig in shit to be the total breadwinner. But I don't think he'd subject me to asking him for the price of a pound of butter."

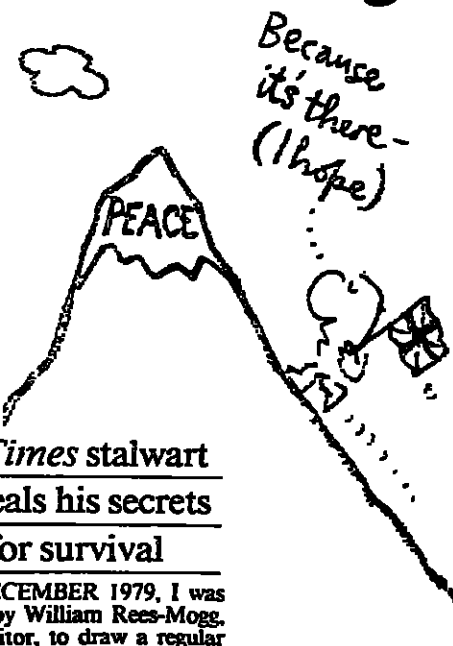
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Relishing the happy hours: Colleen McCullough sometimes works 18 hours at a stretch

# Chuffed, chuffed.

## calman Drawn to laughter



A Times stalwart reveals his secrets for survival

IN DECEMBER 1979, I was hired by William Rees-Mogg, the Editor, to draw a regular front-page cartoon for this newspaper. He was too shy to ask me himself, so Louis Heren, the deputy editor, was the one who took me to lunch and popped the question. It remains the only time I have been given lunch by a newspaper editor.

When I joined *The Times*, it was very much like entering a men's club, terribly genteel. For a while, I went to the afternoon conferences where the various heads of department sat in a semi-circle around Rees-Mogg, who occupied a large cane rocking chair and sipped China tea. Jokes were sometimes made — but they were usually either about old books or new cricketers. I used to show my cartoon ideas to the deputy editor, who referred them to Rees-Mogg only when the jokes were controversial — that is, about the Royal Family and the Catholic Church. A cartoon like the one I did a year or so ago, where a little girl is saying, "When I grow up I want to be Pope", would have been impossible in Rees-Mogg's day.

I cannot draw for a vast body of unknown people called readers. I draw for the Editor or more often the back bench, the name given to the motley crew who make all the

editorial decisions on a newspaper. If they have any glimmer of humour, all is well. If then do not (that is, if they do not like what I do), all is lost. If the editor does not like a cartoon, I start again.

Before I begin drawing, I try to clarify my attitude to the subject: what is the general feeling out there? And if it is a long-running topic, how the devil can I find a fresh angle on it? Trying to be funny comes next. I'm not much good at being significant. I try to make a small pinprick in the portentous bubble of our leaders and their utterances.

I cannot imagine how I have survived this job for 11 years and five Editors. Mostly, I suspect, by keeping a low profile. It is a trick I learned in the army during national service, when I wanted to avoid extra guard duty. I come in each evening as quietly as possible, get the drawing done and accepted, and leave before anyone in authority can call me back to change it. I think I have not been fired simply because they forget I am there.

MEL CALMAN

© Merrie England plc, a collection of Mel Calman's cartoons for *The Times*, is published on November 1 by Mandarin Paperbacks (£3.99).

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INTERCITY **Hertz**



ARRIVING by train at Dorchester, it is easy to imagine that the town has changed little since Thomas Hardy used it as the model for his fictional Casterbridge in the 1880s. On your right, as you emerge, is the Eldridge Pope brewery, an extravagant piece of 19th century Moorish Gothic; in front are the sheds and corrals of Dorchester's livestock market; and to your left, just beyond the signpost with its silhouetted finger that points "To Amphitheatre and Maiden Castle", is the police station, a four-square stone building set around a courtyard.

"Casterbridge was the complement of the rural life around, not its urban opposite," wrote Hardy. "Bees and butterflies in the cornfields at the top of the town, who desired to get to the meads at the bottom, took no circuitous course, but flew straight down High Street without any apparent consciousness that they were traversing strange latitudes." The top of the town is still not so very far from the bottom. But the bees and butterflies may be starting to suspect something, now that the town limits have been extended by a few hundred yards more along the avenue that leads out towards Weymouth.

For beyond the police station, beyond the graveyard with its two identical little grey chapels, and the two nursing homes placed strategically opposite, rises the steel skeleton of an emerging Tesco superstore. And beyond that is the Avenue Stadium, new 7,000 capacity home of Dorchester Town FC of the Beazer Homes League.

The site, which was originally occupied by both the football club and the local rugby club, is on Duchy of Cornwall-owned land, opposite the area earmarked for development by the long-debated Poundbury Farm proposal — the Prince of Wales's model village extension to Dorchester. Whether this influenced Tesco is not known, but the group was prepared to pay the duchy £6 million to develop the site on the edge of a town with a population of only 15,000. The duchy, apparently, became enthused by the project, and found another site for the rugby club to the west of the town. The football club's old ground was flattened to make way for Tesco, and the new stadium was completed in time for the start of this season.

A first impression, from Weymouth Avenue, is of a low, red-brick enclosure, something like a Roman fort, but with floodlights. Closer to, you can see that the end wall facing you, behind one of the goals, has an absurd blue triangle sitting above the central exit gate, a sort of jejune pediment. Round the corner, on the main facade, which is actually the back of the main stand, the eye is caught by more blue metalwork — columns forming a central portico that frames the entrance, and more columns supporting two subsidiary pediments or gables, on top of first-floor balconies.

These semi-classical

## Changing face Tough time for Hardy souls

elements are a distraction from the essence of the building, which is a well-made piece of vernacular architecture using, as far as possible, natural materials. The designer, Philip Dyke of architects the Lawray Partnership, has designed what looks, from the football field, like a traditional grandstand, with its pitched roof and steel supporting framework.

"You get the sense that something's holding it up," says Mr Dyke, comparing the stand to those of other contemporary football stadiums. He claims that the stadium was never thought of as a classical building. "OK, it's got some whimsical bits and pieces," he concedes, "but it hasn't got true classical intentions, by any means."

Why bother with the bits and

pieces at all, then? Could it be that Mr Dyke's initial thoughts were compromised by the need to win the Prince's approval? Not surprisingly, he is not saying — but if so, the compromise is at least a pretty cosmetic one. Painting the steelwork a more sober, more Victorian colour — dark green or rust — would be enough to tone down the unfortunate hint of the post-modern in the design. And there will always be the marvelously rich, red, hand-made facing bricks, alternating with reconstructed Portland stone, to give the building its real character, with the still-raw contrast between them softening with age.

The practice of doing land deals with supermarkets is now well-established in football, and is likely to become even more common as clubs attempt to accommodate the demands of the Taylor report, following the Hillsborough disaster. But the Avenue Stadium cost £3 million to develop, and it is unusual, to say the least, for a non-league club to be so well-favoured. The question is, could such a stadium ever have been built if the land had not belonged to the Duchy of Cornwall? "The duchy," Paul Baker, the club's commercial manager, says fondly, "that's just our good luck. There's not a sales brochure I put out that doesn't have the Prince of Wales's name on it."

CALLUM MURRAY



All eyes on the stand: Dorchester's swiftly-completed new football stadium

## Who's opening branches all over the city?

Liz Gill reports on  
rapidly improving  
relations between  
town-dwellers  
and their trees

Mark Johnston has known tree-planting sessions in cities where the children have tried to push the saplings into the ground branches first. "It seems very sad that a tree should be such an unknown quantity to them, but the good thing is that they will never make that mistake again. They have been involved."

Mr Johnston is the editor of the quarterly magazine, *Urban Forest*, and a campaigner for greener cities and a closer link between town-dwellers and their trees.

Urban trees arouse strong passions. When a chestnut tree was threatened in Islington recently, protestors kept a round-the-clock vigil in its branches until a compromise solution could be found. The problem is that one citizen's inspiration may be another citizen's blocked light or drain. Bill Matthews, the managing director of Southern Tree Surgeons, has known people prune, sometimes fell, a nuisance tree while its owner was away on holiday. "I have even known people try to poison a neighbour's tree. Root trespass is a big thing. You are responsible for your trees. You have to exercise 'the discretion of a prudent landlord'."

If you do not, and something happens, you may be held negligent," Mr Matthews, who holds a royal warrant, has tales about willows that would make any householder weep: how their "very enterprising" roots can fill drains to the point where the tangled mass has to be pulled out with a winch; how they can suck the water out of the soil "like a sponge", eventually causing earth movement and disturbed foundations. He has similar horror stories about other species: beeches are shallow rooted and easily toppled, horse chestnuts can rot and break and their leaves turn a suburban street into a skid pan; poplars can extend their roots one and a half times their height.

He is in no way anti-tree; indeed, his idea of a good time is to go round a housing estate on a Sunday afternoon freeing too-tight ties with his pocket knife. But he does believe a lot of harm is done by planting the wrong tree in the wrong place.

"You can't put large forest trees such as planes and limes into confined spaces like back gardens and narrow streets. They are misfits. Local authorities are getting better, but individuals still do daft things," Mr Matthews says.

Mr Johnston feels that a lot of local authorities are quite good at helping communities to decide what trees they want and where they should go. "Instead of some stuffy ceremony, you have a planting party with food and music. Later on, maybe you get the local people to help loosen the ties and check the stakes," he says.

"Putting your imprint on the landscape in this way means a lot



That old chestnut: residents of Islington in north London trying to defend a condemned tree this summer

more to the tower-block dweller than if the council just comes along with a 'we know best' attitude and whacks something in. A lot of negative attitudes and vandalism in cities stems from ignorance."

Interest in the urban tree has grown enormously in the past five years, says Peter Gerosa, the secretary of the Tree Council. "A few years ago, getting any sponsorship at all was a hard grind. Now commercial concerns are ringing up and saying: 'We want to spend x amount on trees, what do we do?'" Alko Chemicals, he says, is sponsoring National Tree Week next month, and British Gas has pledged £25,000 a year for three years to develop the tree warden scheme, which has 700 volunteers across the country.

Mr Gerosa says there is a growing concern for environmental issues, particularly the greenhouse effect. "The growth of emissions is at the heart of the greenhouse effect, and trees cut down the fumes by absorbing and fixing carbon dioxide and giving off oxygen. They also encourage wildlife, and are beautiful."

Derek Lovejoy, the professor of landscape architecture at Sheffield university, says trees are great value for money. "Their costs are a fraction of those of any construction,

they give shade and visual pleasure, and they humanise our bricks and mortar. But if they die, it is money down the drain."

Professor Lovejoy believes there are technical solutions to many of the problems associated with the urban tree. The Japanese, he says, have had the most successful urban tree planting programme — "they turned concrete jungles into green oases in a decade". Mature trees, 30ft to 40ft tall, have been established in city centres without damaging the services — "for instance you can put the roots in spun concrete pipes so they go straight down".

Britain plants about 15 million amenity, as opposed to forestry, trees a year — 660,000 were put in during National Tree Week last year — and there is growing interest in the idea of the city tree as a source of revenue. Northern Planners, an environmental consultancy in Edinburgh, has just produced a study for the council to show that by the use of an existing saw mill the city's timber could be worth £150,000 a year.

The cost of a tree ranges from a few pence for a forestry transplant to perhaps £3,000 for a mature 30-footer. Getting the right type for that particular site remains cru-

cial. British Standards has guidelines about planting in relation to property, says Mr Johnston, "so there is no need to make mistakes". He is rather fond of rowans, birches and maples for townscapes, but detests "all those shocking pink flowering cherries". Mr Gerosa and Professor Lovejoy both cite the small-leaved gleditsia and robinia as ideal; and Professor Lovejoy confesses to a fondness for the London plane — "they seem the epitome of the city, though they do bother me during the hay fever season. The big thing is not to be too dependent on any one species."

Mr Matthews, who has seen fashions in trees come and go, leaving a legacy of monkey puzzles, sequoias and Indian beams, points out that you can get columnar versions or weeping versions of most species. A warmer climate and cleaner air may also mean a wider choice.

He would not want to see all urban trees neat and small, however. "When you have got the space, in a park or some other open land, then you should plant something really big that children can climb on and adults sit beneath. We do not want to get to the stage where if you climbed a step ladder you could see over the heads of all the trees in town."

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A monster party: dinosaur at the Natural History Museum

### Events in town

#### THIS WEEKEND

● **Fact and fiction:** Monsters, myths and legends under scrutiny this weekend include a talk, today 2pm, with natural historian Joyce Pope, about mythical creatures in cultural history. Tomorrow, face-painting sessions on the same theme, 1-4.30pm.  
**Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 9388).** Today, tomorrow.  
● **Half term at the Imperial War Museum:** Special events to mark the Anglo-American relationship in the second world war include two films — *A Matter of Life and Death* starring David Niven, today 3pm; *Yanks with Richard Gere*, tomorrow, 3pm. US Field Army Band plays music of Glenn Miller, today, tomorrow from 1pm. American food in the cafe.  
**Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 (071-418 5000).** Today, tomorrow, adult £3, child £1.50.  
● **Follow the thread:** Biennial exhibition by members of the Association of Quilters of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. Many items for sale. Every weekend throughout the exhibition, an opportunity to try out weaving, braiding and spinning.  
**Liverpool Museum, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051-207 0001).** Today until Dec.

#### NEXT WEEK

● **Kent Literature festival:** Numerous talks, readings, discussions, workshops and children's events — most based in Folkestone, others in Ashford, Broadstairs, Deal, Lyngs and Lydd. Literary celebrities attending include Frank Muir, John Mortimer, R.D. James, A.S. Byatt and G.V. Barker.  
**The Maritime Arts Centre, The Leas, Folkestone and other venues in Kent.** Mon-Sun. Full programme from festival box office (0303 55070).  
● **The Money Show:** Financial companies on hand to give advice to private investors, businessmen and women and anyone interested in managing their money to good effect.  
**Olympia, London W14.** Thurs 11am-6pm; Fri, Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm. Adult £5, child £2.50.  
● **National Chrysanthemum Society Show:** Specialist flower show for all who grow and love these flowers including old favourites, new plants, competition and specialist producers.  
**RHS Halls, Vincent Square SW1.** Fri 1-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm. Adult £1.50, accompanied child free.

JUDY FROSHAUG



*Help: Bermans, costumiers*

# The witch and the wardrobe



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# Battling the billionaire barbarians

Art robberies are increasing; people are being hurt. Whose job is it — government or private sector — to stem the tide?

It may have its attractions, but now it comes with multiple risks, including theft from your home and your being beaten up in the process. An estimated £2 billion worth of artwork is stolen each year in a growth industry which is second only to drug trafficking.

As well as the 35 raids on galleries in London's west end in the past 18 months, and the theft of two Gainsboroughs and Reynolds from Lincoln's Inn last month, the ever-increasing list includes *A Dog Called Bumper*, Gainsborough's earliest dated picture, stolen from Ravensingham Hall, Norfolk, ten days ago.

There have been a dozen cases of elderly people being woken up at night in their isolated homes in southeast England, threatened with knives, and trussed up while the burglars took their pick of the collections. In one case, thieves left behind a thumbprint reference book on hallmarks as they departed with the family silver.

The past six weeks have seen four armed robberies of porcelain, the theft of £200,000 worth of Meissen, painstakingly collected during 20 years.

Even the streets are vulnerable: York, paving stones, removed from Islington, north London; Victorian lamp-posts, taken from Wandsworth; and even, in a final irony, an antique police box from Piccadilly Circus.

According to informants, the headlines are experiencing difficulties passing on the goods because of low market conditions. But, being canny connoisseurs instead of panicking, they are simply selling them away.

Another growing phenomenon is the number of return trips made by burglars. Philip Saunders, who runs *Trace* magazine, which circulates pictures of stolen art to subscribers, says there is a four out of five chance that all of us will be

burgled during our lifetime. Once burgled, the odds are even higher that we will be burgled again.

Now for the good news. Something is at last being done about art theft. Little credit is due to any of the bodies one might expect to take the initiative, such as auctioneers and dealers, who frequently find themselves the unwitting conduits for stolen goods, the Home Office, or even the police. Scotland Yard's reformed Art and Antique Squad consists of two overworked officers, who concentrate on a limited number of important cases.

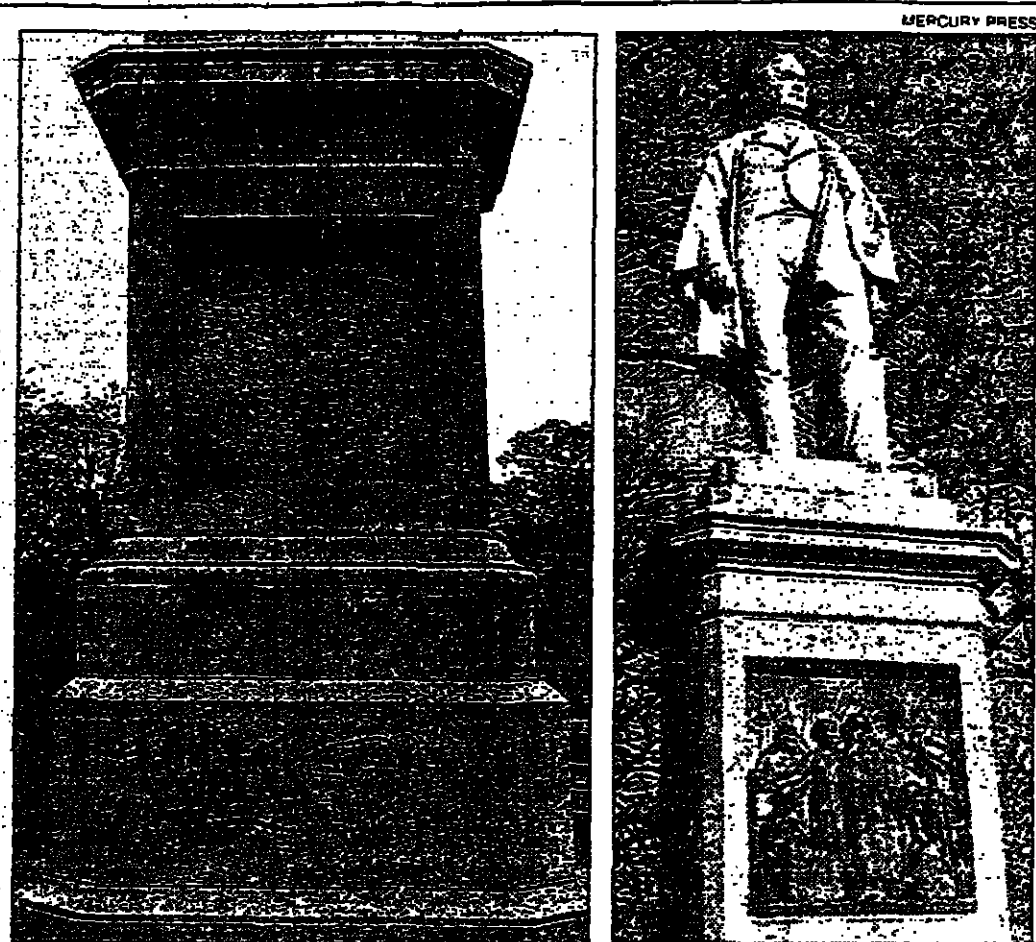
The initiative has been taken by *Trace* and the Georgian Group, which campaigns to protect 18th century buildings. They are running a three-day conference in Plymouth next month at which they hope to bang together the heads of some of the professionals.

Speakers will include Richard Ellis of the Art and Antique Squad on "Fine art and antiques theft — all roads lead to London"; Bryan Dovey, the national museums security adviser on "Museum security in the UK"; and an FBI man on "International liaison".

*Trace* will also launch a training video on "The anatomy of a fine art theft," a docu-drama introducing viewers to the likely sequence of events, from thieves plotting around the kitchen table, to loss-adjustors trying to decide how much to compensate the owner.

"Art theft isn't new. Efforts to combat it are," says Dr Steven Parisien, of the Georgian Group, whose main concern is in checking the phenomenal increase in architectural theft. "There is no liaison between any of the police forces. If a chimp-piece whizzes across a county border, there is no way of tracing it. A lot disappears across the Atlantic."

He asks why the government is ignoring the problem. "There has been more interest from the FBI than the Home Office."



Fatalistic humour or petty vandalism? bronze reliefs on the Rathbone monument were crowbarred off

## Tragi-comedy is nothing to laugh at

Liverpool, a city noted for its fatalistic sense of humour, is being torn apart by art looters in a tragi-comedy which could end only when there is nothing left to take. Examples include the removal of the Liver Building's clock during refurbishment; nobody noticed the thief walking out with the clock in pieces. Then there was the theft of the 30ft-high Vestry window, showing the history of trade in Liverpool in stained glass, including scenes of tea shipping, the packing of salt beef, and Spanish women picking oranges.

The Vestry family had wanted to leave it to the city, but had been refused listed buildings consent to remove it to the local museum. So, one night, the removal job was done for them. The window has not been seen since.

As well as the wholesale removal of cast iron street signs, thought to have gone to America as souvenirs, the bronze reliefs telling of the philanthropy of William Rathbone, the Quaker shipowner, were crowbarred off his monument in

Sefton Park, while even pettier rogues festooned the base with obscene graffiti. Most breathtaking in its impudence was the attempted theft of *Night and Day*, two six-ton Thirties statues, from their niches on the Mersey Tunnel ventilation building. One night, a mobile crane arrived and lifted them off. The plot failed, however, when they fell through the floor of their hiding place. They were recovered but will never return to their niches because of the risk.

Michael King, of the northern branch of the Association of Conservation Officers, says action is hampered by protection rackets run by local gangsters. "If we want to get a building converted in the Toxteth area, money has to be paid to the gangsters to keep the building secured," he says.

Another problem is police apathy, he says. Mr King claims that when, last month, he suggested to a passing policeman that the people stripping a Georgian building in Rodney Street were committing an offence, the policeman shrugged his shoulders and said: "Leave me alone, I'm a sick man. It's nothing to do with me."

All being well, the 75 delegates at the conference will return to their hunting grounds with a list of new contacts, forming a formidable network. They also desperately need an effective international computer register into which they can speedily tune.

Let us hope the battle between *LaserNet*, which already has a

theftline, and the long-awaited system of the Art Trade Liaison Committee, being managed by Julian Radcliffe of Hogg Robinson, will soon be resolved.

Other innovations could include a change in policy by the police, who would begin, with architectural thefts, to prosecute under the Criminal Damage Act

instead of the Theft Act, which might make offences easier to prove.

Likewise, important sellers, such as auction houses, should offer watertight certificates of provenance with the goods, and the Home Office should consider employing more detectives specialising in antiques.

## Gallery of lost treasure

In a brave but potentially embarrassing move, the French museum authorities have produced a list of art stolen during the last decade from their premises. Intended to alert the art world and customs authorities, it reveals that 200 works have disappeared from 50 institutions, either through daylight robbery or by more clandestine operations from inside.

"The list contains a lot of 19th century paintings and paintings on wood," says Vincent Pomarede, one of the compilers. He adds: "The thieves are not members of staff, but people who come into the museum temporarily, such as students."

He is happy to volunteer information about well-known thefts, such as Le Nain's *Game of Cards*, stolen during an exhibition, Monet's *Le Soleil Levant*, taken during a raid on the Marmottan museum, and a Renoir portrait cut from its frame in the Louvre last July by a visitor. But he would not provide fuller details of other thefts.

However, the publicity has so far resulted in more than ten works being retrieved.

Whether the French should be congratulated for their courage, or disparaged for their incompetence at losing so much art in their keeping, is difficult to tell, because of the lack of comparative information from British museums. Civil servants here seem to have their tongues tied.

A check this week unearthed only four cases:

● A 17th century Japanese Kakeemon statuette, valued at £100,000, stolen from the British Museum last March. The figure disappeared sometime between 9.30am and 10am when the museum opened, and has not been seen since.

● Last year, an Egyptian stele was wrenched out of its mountings at the British Museum.

● The Tate's registrar noted only one disappearance, of Lucian Freud's 1952 portrait of Francis Bacon — stolen, not from the Tate, but from the National Gallery in Berlin where it was on loan three years ago. It has not been seen since.

● The National Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum said they were "clean" of thefts, the V&A having forgotten that a £30,000 collection of silver was reported missing two years ago.



Missing: a statuette from the British Museum and a Lucian Freud portrait from the Tate

● There are signs that the international impasse over rights of title to stolen art might soon be resolved. As things stand, if the Louvre's missing Renoir turns up in any "common" law country (such as Britain, most Commonwealth countries and the US), the Louvre will be able to recover it, because right of title remains with the original owner. If it is found in a country where the law is codified (France and Japan), title could pass to a new buyer.

Last month the *Unidroit Convention*, which tries to harmonise private law within states, submitted a draft on the matter to the 53 signatory countries, and, if feedback is favourable, there will be a diplomatic conference next spring. Proposals include adjusting the civil law to match the "common" law, but compensating victims.

## Contemporary art

### Buying madness at the market

AS Halloween approaches, so does the spending fever which for five days grips the art market in London at this time of the year. Usually said businessmen clash elbows with the author Douglas Adams and the television personality Francine Stock in their efforts to buy bargains at the Contemporary Art Society market.

Snash and grab is followed by cash and carry, with triumphant buyers departing with carrier bags supplied by the sponsors, Sainsbury's, proclaiming "Good art costs less at the CAS market."

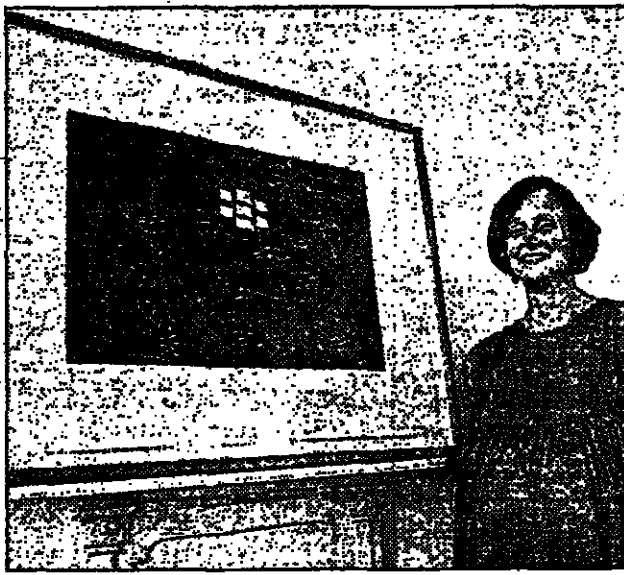
"It's a sort of madness," says Petronilla Silver, a selector with Jenni Walwin. She describes the atmosphere as "like a party". Last year, for example a group of three pastel landscapes by Ken Draper were ignored for days. "Then there was this rush and scuffle and suddenly they were all gone," she says. "There is no rhyme or reason as to what does and does not sell."

As the fray approaches, and works by artists such as

Gillian Ayres and Peter Blake are lined up against newcomers such as the photographer Janusz Olaszewski and Sally Payson, for £100 to £1,500, a number of questions arise. Has the recession taken the thrust out of those elbows? Have buyers developed misgivings about this method of acquiring what are after all, the fruits of much deeply felt labour? Could it be that having fulfilled its purpose as seed-bed, the society should now retire gracefully to its potting shed?

The fair started seven years ago, when the market was sluggish and barely formed. It was a worthy plan to encourage sales of contemporary art, while the society made a humble profit for itself. Takings are used to buy works for museums.

Sales instantly took off, rising from £50,000 in 1984 to £320,056 last year, largely because of buyers' insecurity about their own tastes, and the reassurance that the work was quality controlled. In 1983, Mrs Silver could take her pick



New visions: Jenni Walwin with a work by Eileen Cooper

at the art college degree shows. Now, she says, "Everywhere is market orientated, and everything by the artists we want is already sold and we have to commission anew."

Artists whose careers the society launched at the market include Gwen Hardie, a young star at Fischer Fine Art, and John Keane, now a war artist in the Gulf.

"I don't think they mean to be, but the CAS are incredible competition to us galleries," says Anne Berthoud, a dealer. A fellow dealer Vanessa Devorex adds: "The message on

those bags last year made me feel slightly threatened." About one third of the artists represented are already attached to galleries. "Several collectors have said to me 'we are not buying anything because we are waiting for the CAS market,'" Ms Berthoud says.

The best advice is: go along, but think hard before buying. The artists and future supplies will not go away.

● Contemporary Art Society Market, Oct 3 to Nov 3, Smith's Galleries, 25 Neal Street, Covent Garden, London WC2 (further information 071-821 5323).

up at Christie's South Kensington at £200 to £8,000 each. Sketches by members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood come surprisingly cheap at Christie's Victorian art sale, also in South Kensington. A Burne-Jones pencil study of a dreaming boy is estimated at £4,000, while Holman Hunt's signed *William Ery in the Life School* is £800.

The mad Richard Dadd upstages his competitors at Christie's, King Street, Victorian sale, with two works: his stilted but still dramatic watercolour sketch of *The Death of Richard II*, estimated at £15,000, and *The Diadems*, in which a ship is tossed like a toy in stormy seas, at £18,000. Both were painted while the artist was in Bedlam hospital after murdering his father. The highest estimate at the sale is for a grouse painting by

Archibald Thorburn, at £30,000 to £40,000.

Christie's South Kensington also offers a selection of prize bulls, carthorses and a painting of John Bull at the barbershop, while Bonhams' modern British sale features a charcoal drawing of a young Leonard Bernstein conducting (£150 to £250), and a head study of Igor Stravinsky by his son Theodore (£200). Bonhams' prize draw is *The Duck Pond* by Joseph Crawhall, one of the Glasgow Boys (estimate £80,000 to £100,000).

An unremarkable line-up of English furniture at Christie's is enlivened by a collection of cameos and intaglios formed by the first Earl of Beverley in the late 18th century. A box containing 800 tiny, impressed images is estimated at £2,000.

Friday: A lavish pair of 19th century commodes inlaid with cut brass and tortoiseshell, and featuring winged caryatids at each corner, estimated at £100,000 to £150,000, could fetch the highest price of the week at Sotheby's sale of 19th and 20th century furniture.

● Sotheby's, New Bond Street, (071-493 8080); Christie's King Street, St James (071-339 9060); Christie's South Kensington (071-581 7611); Phillips, 101 New Bond Street (071-639 6602); Bonhams, Monmouth Street, London SW7 (071-584 9161).

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## Review

True Blue: A blue diamond of 19.41ct fetched a record \$5.5 million (£2.82 million) at Christie's New York — a sale that achieved the highest turnover for a Christie's jewellery auction at \$31 million, with 92 per cent sold.

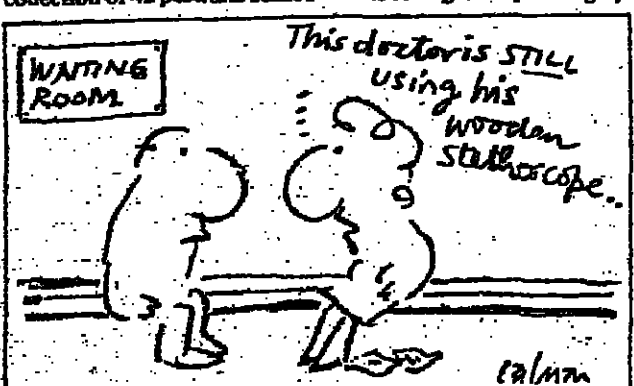
No gem Sotheby's suffered an 86 per cent failure rate at its Scandinavian sale in New York; its 19th century European art limped in with 44 per cent unsold. Casualties included *High Seas* by August Strindberg, the dramatist and painter (estimate \$4 million).

Big Tops: A smiling clown *equilibrante*, which does acrobatics to music, fetched a record in Britain for a musical automaton at Christie's South Kensington of £19,800 (estimate £4,000), and a 17th century needlework basket fetched a world record of £82,500.

Paint mine: A Victorian Gothic painted pine bookcase defied its estimate of £3,000 to £1,000 at Bonhams, selling for £28,000.

## Preview

Sunday: Collectable nasties galore at the ninth International Scientific & Medical Instrument Fair (Portman Hotel, London W1; informa-



This doctor is still using his wooden stethoscope.







## ARTS

## DECORATIVE ARTS

## Renaissance rich with Eastern promise

Throughout its 60-year history, the various proprietors of the Dorchester Hotel have re-vamped the great interiors with a radical flair and extravagance unusual in such "establishment" establishments. Unconventional designers have been hired and original works of art commissioned. Over the past two years this tradition of daring innovation has been revised and, thanks to the wealth of the Dorchester's present owner, the Sultan of Brunei, the entire hotel is nearing the end of a £100 million programme of restoration and refurbishment. This has been carried out by the world's largest hotel design group, Richmond Inston.

Most Londoners speed past the hotel's vaguely Art Deco facade on Park Lane suspecting, perhaps, that the interiors resemble the kinds of angular Thirties settings in which Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers might have tripped. But the exterior is deceiving. Inside, the style of the public areas and prestige suites could even be described as frivolous. In fact, though, the effete modern-roccoco tone has only developed since Lord Snowdon's uncle, the theatre designer Oliver Messel, decorated the new additions to the hotel in the early Fifties.

Now Messel's gorgeous interiors are being painstakingly restored and will doubtless remain the Dorchester's spectacular *pièce de résistance* when it officially re-opens next month. The Penthouse Suite, and the one beneath it named in honour of the designer, are staggeringly theatrical. Nowhere, surprisingly, is there even the faintest echo of Festival of Britain modernism.

The dining-room of the Penthouse is bizarre, even slightly grotesque. Here Messel concocted an outrageous, camp fantasy of a room—a fairytale in which to entertain. Branches made of gesso, encrusted with outside gilded oak leaves, clamber over the mirrored walls, fantastic bird-cages hover at ceiling level and the shameless artificiality of the whole is compounded by a pale green and pink colour-scheme.

After nearly 40 years, John Claridge, one of Messel's original assistants, has returned to help accomplish the renaissance. Claridge is tackling the work with meticulous thoroughness. For example, tiny fanciful caryatids—

Andrew Gibbon  
Williams explores the  
extravagant interiors  
of the refurbished  
Dorchester Hotel



from a side-table entablature originally made of combs—have been replicated in resin. Radiator grilles have been rebronzed and Ottoman wallcoverings reweaved.

In the Pavilion Room—which even with its slender gilt-capitalized, black Corinthian columns and almond-green silk walls, is *sotto voce* compared with the dining room—Messel had been infected by the playful spirit of Nash's Brighton pleasure dome. So when the designer Alberto Pinto was employed to decorate the Terrace Restaurant in the Seventies, his emulation of the Crace family's interiors was based on a precedent. Pinto's designs are, in fact, a clever pastiche of Regency chinoiserie with a free-standing fretted gazebo structure and exuberant salmon-scaled columns topped with gilded palm fronds. Although less than 20 years old, even this area of the hotel is being overhauled.

When it came to supplementing all this capricious grandeur in a scene worthy of the Douanier Rousseau, the artist has disdained colour in favour of monochrome. The piece is full of delightful vigour.

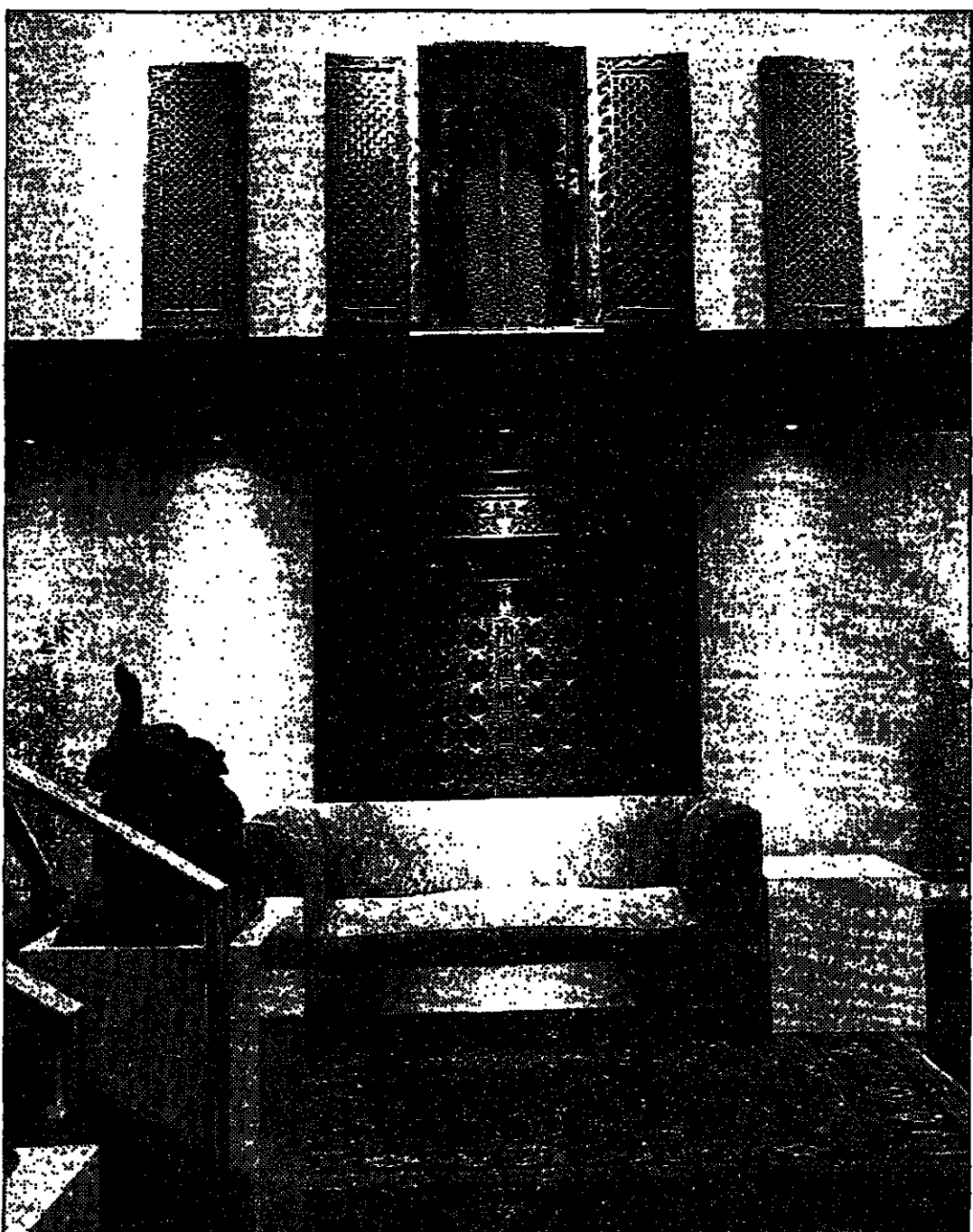
For my taste, although convincingly imbued with the gloss and glamour of the inter-war years—Daphne Whittaker's nude torsos are too close to the spirit of Bugatti for comfort. If, in these, one feels as if one is teetering on

the brink of an abyss of pastiche, then in the health club paintings by the London-based French artist Christian Corrier, one plunges right in. Corrier has produced an Adam and Eve series in a manner so near to that of Tamara de Lempicka that copyright would be infringed if such a thing pertained.

Nevertheless, as components in this opulent scheme they are much more than adequate. Although Graham Sutherland designed a carpet for the hotel in the Fifties (unfortunately lost), well-known names are thin on the ground at the Dorchester. However, the hotel's heritage of art

world associations has been enriched during the refurbishment: Gauguin's great granddaughter executed the new *trompe l'oeil* ceiling decoration in the famous Gold Room.

Plaque unveiled, page 6



Authentic in atmosphere: the entrance to the new Oriental restaurant on the ground floor

world associations has been enriched during the refurbishment: Gauguin's great granddaughter executed the new *trompe l'oeil* ceiling decoration in the famous Gold Room.

Plaque unveiled, page 6

## ROCK

## Short on notes

Johnny Cash  
National, Kilburn

OLD Gravel Voice is back. Johnny Cash's 35th anniversary tour was supposed to take place five months ago, but was postponed because the singer was still recovering from a broken jaw, contracted during dental surgery. Since he has also suffered from a serious heart condition, audiences should be grateful to see him at all.

It was his throat which caused most concern at Kilburn. For the first hour, he croaked his way through the country and western melodies, retreating every now and then for a glass of water.

The voice problems could not ruin the show. Cash has never been a vocal virtuoso anyway. His appeal lies in the terse, un-sentimental sketches of blue-collar life and the steady tractor beat of his band. The title of his new Mercury album, *Boom Chicka Boom*, tells all: wonderfully relaxed, it jingles truckers' laments, advertisements for The Bible and wry digs at the American dream.

The bulk of his show comprised past hits, the favourites greeted with the NW6 version of the rebel yell. The loudest shouts went up for the medley from the celebrated Folsom Prison concert. Cash ought to be able to sing this in his sleep. On "Twenty Five Minutes to Go", the thoughts of a man facing the gallows, he stumbled over the lyrics, but without fatal consequences.

The comic ballad "A Boy Named Sue" had to show its face at some point. Cash sounded a trifle bored with this one, as well he might. But he sounded more enthusiastic on "Wreck of the Old 97", a cheerful rail disaster song. A performer who has been using the same drummer for 32 years is unlikely to risk tampering with a successful formula. But there was a contemporary twist to "Don't Take Your Guns to Town", with a dedication aimed at Margaret Thatcher, George Bush and Saddam Hussein.

His former label, CBS, ought to show some common sense and re-issue the San Quentin and Folsom albums. Two of the most atmospheric live recordings of all time should not be confined to an import list.

CLIVE DAVIS

## LITERATURE

## Ghetto rebellion from the sepia Steinbeck



Richard Wright: reflected anguish of racial segregation

Clive Davis on the life of American novelist Richard Wright

In the 1940s, Richard Wright was numbered among the United States' most famous novelists. In a country where skin colour still determined a person's future, a society which had produced a "Great White Hope" and a "Brown Bomber", Wright was the "Sepia Steinbeck".

His first novel, *Native Son*, appeared in 1940, pushing *The Grapes of Wrath* off the top of the bestseller list. It was an angry and violent book, the story of a disaffected black youth who kills a white woman. The incoherent rage burning inside Wright's anti-hero, Bigger Thomas, reflected the anguish of Wright's own childhood under segregation in the south, and the book soon attracted the attention of Hollywood's new wunderkind, Orson Welles, who mounted a Broadway version.

Like Welles, Wright found that early success was not to last. Tired of the petty discrimination that ruled his life, even in liberal New York, he went into exile to France. Most of his subsequent books flopped in America, while his left-wing views made him increasingly unpopular in the McCarthy era. In New York, he had been spied on by the FBI; the surveillance continued in Paris. He died, poor and dispirited, in 1960.

There was nothing in Wright's background to suggest he would ever do more than live out the circumscribed existence of a black southerner. Born in a sharecropper's cabin in Mississippi in 1908, he endured a poverty-stricken

childhood. Against the odds, he acquired a taste for literature and the ambition to escape to the relative freedom of the north.

He finally reached Chicago in 1927, and a decade later published a collection of short stories, *Uncle Tom's Children*. The book enjoyed some success in liberal circles, but to his horror, Wright realised that people were praising him for the wrong reasons: "I found that I had written a book which even bankers' daughters could read and weep over and feel good about. I swore to myself that if I ever wrote another book, no one would weep over it; that it would be so hard and deep that they would have to face it without the consolation of tears."

*Native Son* achieved that goal. Bigger Thomas is a brutal, amoral product of Chicago's South Side ghetto, and the novel stands as a terse prophecy of the turmoil lying in wait in America's cities. As the historian Irving Howe put it: "The day *Native Son* appeared, American culture was changed for ever."

Wright came up with another bestseller in 1945 when he published *Black Boy*, a record of his years in the south. The book was instantly recognised as an American classic. By the time he settled in Paris, Wright was an international celebrity. A former communist, he mingled with Sartre's Left Bank circle. Black American artists who followed him into exile looked on him as a father-figure. James Baldwin was among them. With the Cold War well under-

way, Wright plunged into political activities, joining Sartre on many a public platform. Politics and café socialising took up more and more time. He did not publish his next novel, *The Outsider*, until 1953. In *The United States*, the critical reception was mixed. Wright's subsequent novels met a similar fate. The general verdict was that he was losing touch with American life.

The fall in sales of his books was matched by political pressure from the American government. According to Addison Gayle, a New York academic who has studied the official files on Wright, the novelist was first put under surveillance in the early Forties. His mail was opened by the FBI, and after Wright's death, rumours sprang up that he had been murdered by American agents. Paranoia played its part, but the speculation still continues.

His last years had also been soured by disputes with protégés such as Baldwin. Wright was no longer the undisputed voice of black America; Baldwin and some of the younger aesthetes bridled at the didactic elements in *Native Son*. But for all their occasional faults, Wright's books possess a power that has rarely been equalled. Today, when the resented feminism of an Alice Walker is all the rage, his message, bleak and unforbearing, still demands to be heard.

● Richard Wright — *A Native Son* will be broadcast on Radio 4 on Sunday at 10.15pm.

## OPERA

## Leaden Roman romp

Satyricon  
Drill Hall

THE British premiere of a piece of music theatre by Bruno Maderna on the subject of Petronius's *Satyricon*, after the manner of Fellini, and performed by the Opera Factory, must have seemed like a winning combination. All the greater pity, then, that *Satyricon* should turn out to be such a dismal failure.

Sixteen episodes relating to a Roman banquet can be given in any order and the dialogue, after Petronius, has been adapted by the director of this production, Robert Chevara. Whether or not the adaptation intended that the dialogue should emerge as so leaden and unfunny, one might have expected that a composer of Maderna's calibre — a leading figure of the Italian avant-garde — would at least have compensated with a score of wit and quality.

Instead, he produced something barely worthy of an undergraduate revue: bleeding chunks of operatic classics alongside smatches of cabaret and popular song, all stitched loosely together. Not only is Maderna's "satire" devoid of subtlety in that the pastiche

almost always takes the form of quotation rather than style imitation; worse still, there is no rationale for the pastiche, its having no relation to the text beyond a generalised air of Felliniesque anarchy.

Chevara's production struggles valiantly to salvage something from the wreckage. The sight of Christopher Robson, playing another of his effete grotesques, trying to remove fruit with his teeth from the prong of a giant fork wielded by another, staves in the memory. So does the graphically simulated buggery of the hermaphrodite Nicerus (played with more than a touch of camp by Bertie), the latter meanwhile running through the shopping list for the next month's banquets.

The debauched character of Trimalchio may just about justify Kevin West's gross declamation. Other sung or spoken roles were taken by Angela Hickey: Sian Thomas, James Meek, Mark Diddot and Helen Sheels. David Parry conducted the Opera Factory Ensemble with his customary flair. Enterprising as the choice of work might seem, this end of term romp is worthy neither of Maderna nor of the Opera Factory.

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## THEATRES

Continued from facing page

**LONDON PALAESTINE** NO 071 437 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# RADIO 4

(a) Stereo on FM

**5.55** **Strong Forecast 6.00**  
News Briefing; Weather 6.10  
The Farming Week: Prospects for British forestry 5.50 Prayer for the Day by James Whitbourn (c) 7.00 Today, with John Humphrys and Chris Lewis, till 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 News 7.55, 8.55-Weather 9.00 News

**9.05** Sport on 4 with Cliff Morgan

**9.30** **Country Travel and holiday**  
news with Ken Stott. Includes a report by Joanne Godfrey on women travelling alone

**10.00** **10.00** **10.00** **10.00**  
Sherrin, Robert Elms, Emma Freud and Craig Charles (c)

**11.00** **News: The Week in**  
Westminster with Robin Oakesley

**11.30** **From Our Own**  
Correspondent: Reflections of life and politics abroad

**12.00** **Money: Box with Louise**  
Botting and Vincent Dugdaley

**12.25pm** **The News: Cus: Topical**  
commentary by Sue Tuck  
With Richard Ingrams, Alan Coren and men guests (c) 12.55 Weather

**1.00** **News**

**1.10** **Any Questions?:** Joining Jonathan Dimbleby in Harrogate are guests Sir John Harewood, John Harewood, MP, opposition spokesman on children; Douglas Mason, domestic policy adviser, Adam Smith Institute, and George Walden, MP (c) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

**2.00** **News: Any Answers?:** 071-580-4411. Listening can call Jonathan Dimbleby with their views on the issues raised in *Any Questions?*

**2.30** **Saturday Playhouse:**  
Dunwood. John Buchen's tale of anthropoid set in 1644. During the course of Monroise (a Crawford Logan) attempt to conquer Scotland, David Monro (Paul Pump) discovers that his descendants' souls risk eternal damnation. With Tom Fleming as James Farvace, Ian Curzon as Andrew George, Steven Wainwright as and Mary Rogers as Isobel Veitch (c)

**4.00** **News: Looking Eastwards to**  
the Sea: Part 4: *Adventures*. John Key describes the East India Company's voyages between 1601 and 1625 (c) (a)

**4.30** **Science Now** explores the world's leading solar observatory

**5.00** **Largely Waters:** John Waters lends his wit and wisdom to stories from around the country, the week's leading subject of animals.

**5.25** **Week Ending: Statistical view** of the country's news (c) 11.55 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

**6.00** **News: Sports Round-Up**  
6.25 **Country** (Remount edition) (s)

**7.10** **Stop the Week**

**7.45** **Classical Series: The Forty**  
Choroicles. Fifth of a 20-part edition of John Galsworthy's saga, narrated by Dirk Bogarde

**8.45** **Tough Cookies:** Jenny Cuffs talks to Shirley McLaren who faced the fact that she was a lesbian after marriage and the birth of two children (c) (r)

**9.10** **Musical Mind:** Susan Kay with a selection of popular melodies (s)

**9.50** **News: Ten (c) 9.59** Weather

**10.00** **News**

**10.15** **Open Mind** Discussion chaired by John Lloyd

**10.45** **Uncle Mori's South Country**  
(new series)  
● **CHANCE:** All the signposts in Peter Timmswood country, north or south, carry the grumpy and ironic ambience of his unique style as radio comedy writer. With no surprise then, we discover that the BBC landed five disgusting table footballs, whirling away at the burlap on his dip on a rusty gardening knife, that the dentures crack while the dominos clack in the local pub and that the vicar's "elbow-gossip and chavavag" away at the bar counter. And we marvel yet again at how effortlessly Timmswood changes us or drops from that charmless gear to the elevated gear that is just as typical of him when he described the Kent hopfields where the thirty-year-old "sag, and sigh on their wicks"

**11.00** **Richard Baker Compares**  
Notes with 90-year-old singer Cross (c) (r)

**11.30** **The Sir-Crump:** The fourth of Sue Lumb's six-part comedy about the English civil war, starring Josie Ackland (c)

**12.00** **12.30pm News:** till 12.20 weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

**FREQUENCIES:** Radio 1: 105.3kHz/255m; 108.9kHz/275m FM47.5-69.9; Radio 2: FM89.9-92; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/274m; FM94.0-94.4; Radio 4: 121.5kHz/274m; FM94.0-94.4; Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 693kHz/550m; World Service: MW 564kHz/100m; FM564kHz/100m; LSC: 1152kHz/251m; FM 87.3; Capital: 105.3kHz/255m



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## The Garrison

his nine-year-old son to school. The headmaster's career and marriage to Eva Marie Saint are knocked sideways and an emotional triangle results. Also starring Charles Bronson, *Deliverance* is directed by master Vincente Minnelli. (CeeFax)

4.56 Red and Blue. Animated double bill

5.05 The Clothes Shop. Jeff Banks and Carolyn Franklin report from Paris Fashion week

5.30 Hearts of Gold. Lots more back patting when Esther Rantzen seeks out more good-hearted citizens

6.15 Lifetime. *Survivor*. Appeals on behalf of the Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy

6.25 News with Michael Buerck. Weather songs of Praise from the Tazs community in Durban, South Africa

7.15 Last of the Summer Wines. Gentle, enduring comedy series starring Bill Owen, Peter Sallis and Brian Wilde. The two Fagles are back. (Except that he is too old to take part in the annual barrel rolling competition (?). (CeeFax)

7.45 Howards' Way. More shilldurgery and intrigue as the south coast boating set. (CeeFax)

8.35 Bread. Carie Lane's comedy series about a resourcful Liverpoolian family. (CeeFax)

9.05 The Green Man.

● CHOICE: Kinley Amis's story of spooks and sex-in, and around, a posh country restaurant, has been broken down into three episodes by Malcolm Sinclair whose delicate touch in situations involving close encounters of the erotic kind has already been sensationlly illustrated on television. "I will show you the true shape of your desire," says the seductive, charming ghost to restaurateur Albert Finney whose

**Phenomenal jazz: Louis Scelavista (4.30pm)**  
who can take jazz or leave it. Caroline Monnet's 30-minute film gets it just about right. It is never a bad thing in life, or on television, when we are left wanting more. Miss Maynard distles into 30 minutes a jazz session at this year's International Bath Festival. Lightning-wise, it is all pinkie and blues — the correct colours for jazz. We are entitled to expect well balanced sound, and we get it. Louis Scelavista's bass clarinet playing is nothing less than phenomenal, and so is the woman singer with her Ragin' n' Bustin' Wedding Band who produces sounds the like of which you have probably never heard coming through two lips before. Miles Kingston presents the show. He really must learn to speak more slowly and clearly if we are to get the full benefit of his enviable knowledge of all things jazz.

**5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of Ireland v Argentina and Gloucester v Nottingham. Wales: Rugby Special.**

**Wales**

**6.00 Julie Box Jury.** Julie Holland invites Julie Smith, Tracy McLeod, Craig Ferguson and Durga McBroom to comment on the week's new singles

last confrontation with spirits came

in quasipolice in the film *Scream*. The  
 11.05 *officer's* *officer's* *officer's* *officer's* *officer's*  
 it has been made abundantly clear to us  
 what Mr Finney's true desires are  
 from his over-indulgence in another kind  
 of sex, and to the fact that he is of  
 his best friend's wife. Catering-wise,  
 however, he can be said to run a fine  
 establishment, otherwise he would not  
 be a Lord. In the *officer's* *officer's* *officer's*  
 would give it the distinction of his  
 patronage, though Jonathan Meades  
 is not keen about the bill of fare.  
 (Cassia)

10.05 News with Michael Burk. Weather  
 11.05 Heart of the Matter: Divided We  
 Stand: Joan Bakewell examines how  
 German unification may produce  
 a new shock to the British people  
 who have only known the communist  
 way of life, Northern Ireland: Ulster in  
 Focus 10.35 Clear Sky

10.50 The Day and Night of Molly  
 Dodd. American comedy series about  
 one women's ups and downs  
 11.05 Clear Sky. New education  
 magazine (N) Northern Ireland: 11.05  
 11.45 Heart of the Matter

11.45 Mahabharat (11.25am) Weather

**6.35 The Money Programme** reports on the impact of the fall of Henry Cavendish's

the impact of the trials of Larry Goodman's  
 meat trading empire on Dublin's  
 financial circles.

7.15 **The Trials of Lure: Hunting and Escaping.** David Attenborough observes the battles that occur between the wild, pack-hunting killer whales going after sea lions near Patagonia and chimpanzees hunting in teams to catch colobus monkeys in the rainforests of the Ivory Coast. **Severe** – gruesome fare (?) **(Ceebox)**

8.05 **Nippon.** The second in the eight-part documentary tracing the rise of Japan from the ruins of 1945 to its status as a world economic leader. **(Ceebox)**

9.05 **Film: Rian.**

● **CHOICE:** if you happened to catch Chris Marker's documentary about the filming of Akira Kurosawa's *Ran* on BBC2 last Friday night, you will almost certainly be all agog to see the rest of it tonight. Do not resist too much of it, though. It is a long, long, bleak, bleak, movie which initially unwinds so slowly that it will make you wish there was some way of fast-forwarding it. None the less, it is undeniably classic (*Ran* means 'chaos' in Chinese, war or conflict in Japanese) and, as you would expect with Kurosawa, many of the images are brilliantly composed. Shakespeareans will enjoy tiptoeing the ways in which the film recreates the plot and characters of *King Lear*, in spite of a major change in period and setting (16th century Japan) and some significant sex changes (*three sons instead of three daughters*)

11.40 **Dance Energy?**

12.20 **20 Minutes Rapidly** presented by Antoine de Caunes. The featured artists are Los Lobos (r). Ends at 12.55

070

8.00 **Tv-am**  
8.00 **Frost on Sunday.** The guests include Chris Patten. Reviewing the newspapers are Alan Coren and Lynn Barber

9.25 **The Disney Club.** Andrea Strong, John Eccleston and Gordon Ingile explore the giant maze at Leeds Castle in Kent and visit the Wonders of Life pavilion at Walt Disney World in the state of Florida. Music is provided by the Urban Strawberry Lunch band

10.45 **Link.** Peter White talks to the theoretical physicist Professor Stephen Hawking, author of the best-selling *A Brief History of Time*

11.00 **Morning Worship.** Roman Catholic Mass from the Church of Christ the King, Loughlin, Cardiff

12.00 **The Human Factor.** A profile of deaf actress Elizabeth Quinn

12.30 **LWT News Weekend.** The first of a new current affairs series

1.00 **News with Nicholas Owen.** Weather

1.10 **Walden.** This week Brian Walden interviews the deputy prime minister Sir Geoffrey Howe

2.00 **Film: Beneath the Planet of the Apes (1970).** Charlton Heston, Kim Hunter and James Franciscus star in this respectable sequel to the visually innovative *Planet of the Apes*. The sets and ape make-up are up to standard as the film tells of such human mutant survivors of a nuclear war. Directed by Ted Post 3.45 Cartoon Time

4.00 **The London Match.** Sir Brian Moore commences on a first division game featuring a London team

5.00 **Sunday Sunday.** Gloria Hunniford chats with another selection of guests, including Alan Alda, Bill Wyman, Craig Ferguson and Kylie Minogue. Patrick Moore and science presenter Sue Carpenter are the guest reviewers

**6.00** The River Thames: Tides and Trade. The first of a six-part series tracing the history of the historic river. Narrated by Gavin Weightman

**6.30** News with Nicholas Owen. Weather

**6.35** LWT News and weather

**6.40** Highway. Sir Ian Botham visits Dumbarton. Among the people he meets is Elizabeth McDermid who won the first gold medal for Scotland at the Special Olympics

**7.15** Close to Home. *Sircom* with animals. Pauline Stephens stars as the divorced vet with the lively teenage children. (Oracle)

**7.45** The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: The Best Man To Die. Episode two of the third series. Inspector Wexford is convinced that the deaths of Charlie and Jerome Fanshawe are linked. *Di Burden* disapproves. Starring George Baker and Christopher Ravenscroft (Oracle)

**8.45** News with Nicholas Owen. Weather

**9.00** LWT Weather

**9.05** London's Burning. Hard-hitting drama set in the Blue Watch fire station. This week, a window cleaner working on the 18th floor of a tower block is seriously injured and the Blue Watch are sent to the rescue. (Oracle)

**10.05** Hale & Pace. Hit-and-miss comedy with Gareth and Norman

**10.35** The South Bank Show. John Updike  
● **CHOICE:** You do not have to take Updike's word for it (even if he offers it tonight, which he does not, though he has often been forced to admit it in other interviews). Read a couple of novels charting the progress through the decades of the character he calls Rabbit, are reflections of the attitudes and experience of Mr Average American. Spend some time in Pennsylvania, where the novels are set, and you will appreciate how deeply Updike has dug into his native soil. Nevertheless, there is still a lot of

mileage left in Rabbit, and it is

fascinating to hear Ubbie's replies to questions (and his own musings) as: what made Flabbot run, what was his view of America, and what epitaph might Ubbie write for him now that he has stopped him running?

11.35 **Corpses**, The body count shows the American underworld proved to be a marketable alternative to the superhero tradition, with characters such as Spiderman, Conan and Vampire

12.10am **The TV Chat Show (r)**, Followed by News headlines

1.10 **The Time Tunnel**, Time-travelling adventure with Robert Colbert and James Farentino. They and Doug find themselves in the year 1936, just in time for the battle of the Alamo (r).

Followed by News headlines

2.10 **Pick of the Week**, Highlights of the week's viewing on regional television.

2.40 **Adventure**, Followed by a series of adventurous moments to watch from the safety of your armchair – or bed

3.00 **Indy Car World**, Motor sports action

4.00 **The Silk Road**, A Heartwave Called Turan. Continuing the story of the great silk route for the first time (r)

5.00 **11p Morning News**, Ends at 8.00

## World Sport (d 7.00)

**6.00** *Worldspan Sport* (r) 7.00  
**Gardeners' Calendar (r) (Oracle) 7.30  
**Once Upon a Time . . . Life.** A cartoon journey through the human body (r) 8.00 **Dennis.** Cartoon 8.30  
**Bobobobs** 9.00 **Early Bird.** Magazine series for the young**

**9.25** **Orientations.** Current affairs magazine which focuses on the Far East and South-east Asia. The programme includes an examination of the reaction of people in the Portuguese territory of Macao towards the projected handover to China in 1999

**10.00** **A Week in Politics – Second Reading.** Thursday's programme updated. This morning's edition includes an interview with Teresa Gorman, MP, on child benefit and the alternatives; and a report on the rise of the Islamic party in Britain – is it a threat to Labour's majority in Bradford North?

**10.45** **Dennis.** More cartoon adventures with the mischievous boy 11.00 **Owl TV.** Michaela Strachan presents the nature programme with an emphasis on children with special needs. (Teletext)

**1.30** **Grim Tales: The Valkent Little Tailor.** Rick Mayall reads a Brothers Grimm story about a little tailor who defeats two terrifying giants (r) 11.45  
**The Astrology Show.** Laura Boomer presents the show that makes astrology relevant to the Nineties

- 12.00 The Waltons 1.00 Land of the Giants. Sixties sci-fi series
- 2.00 Film: The Sound Barrier (1952, b/w) starring Ralph Richardson, Nigel Patrick, Ann Todd, Dinah Sheridan, Denholm Elliott. A classic disaster film starring Ralph Richardson as a ruthless aircraft manufacturer who takes risks with the lives of his family and friends to prove the sound barrier can be broken. Intelligent melodrama with splendid air sequences. Directed by David Lean
- 4.10 Nat King Cole Show (b/w). First shown in 1957
- 4.40 Answering Back. In this new series, Mary Goldring conducts in-depth interviews with senior figures in the worlds of business, politics and finance. Today she talks to Lord Weinstock, managing director of GEC
- 5.25 News summary and weather
- 5.30 Ruled to Lead. The first five of the 13-part serial based on the novels of L.M. Montgomery about young Sara Stanley, who is sent to live with her dead mother's family in rural Avonlea when her father, a wealthy merchant, becomes involved in an embezzlement scandal
- 6.30 The Cosby Show. Successful American sitcom starring Bill Cosby as the harassed family man, Cliff Huxtable
- 7.00 Equinox: The Winning Streak. Continuation of the science and technology series. Tony Ward, author and spokesman for British athletics, reports on East Germany's women's athletics team before the

selection and training system was disbanded when East merged with West. (Teletext)

**8.00 American Football.** The featured game is the Miami Dolphins versus the Indianapolis Colts.

**9.30 The Media Show.** Emma Fearn examines the opportunities presented by the mass availability of relatively inexpensive high-quality equipment, from Super VHS video cameras to domestic music samplers. *Previously* disenfranchised groups could, theoretically, now have their say, but how realistic is this view of "democracy through cheap technology"?

**10.15 Film: Fool for Love (1985)** starring Sam Shepard, Kim Basinger, Harry Dean Stanton, Randy Quaid. Shepard comes to a rundown motel in New Mexico to try to reconcile his obsessive "can't-live-with-his-her, can't-live-without-her" relationship with Basinger. Based on Shepard's successful stage play, the film is a realistically-fashioned study of people who live "just below the mainstream of American culture". Directed by Robert Altman. (Teletext)

**12.15am Film: Shadows of Our Forgotten Ancestors (1964).** A visually stunning allegory set in a small town of the nineteenth century Carpathian village where Ivan Kadochnikov, inconsolable after the death of his childhood sweetheart Larisse Kadochnikova, is tempted into a tragic marriage to earthy Tatiana Bestavaeva. (With English subtitles). Directed by Sergei Paradjanov. Ends at 2.00

## ANGELA .....

[illegible]

**Division Spies** 4:10 The Wonderful World of Disney 5:05 All Chased Up 5:35-6:30 Coronation Street 11:35 Prisoner: Cell Block Two 12:30-1:00 The World's Most Wanted Man 3:00 Flack of the Week 4:10-5:00 The ITV Chart Show.

**HTV WEST**  
As London escaped... 12:30pm-1:00 The Wonderful World of Guinness Records  
2:00 Celtic Walks 2:30 Flack Newsweek  
2:55 Flac: Jane Carr on Reginald 3:30  
The World's Most Wanted Man 3:55  
5:00 5:30 Bullseye 11:35 Prisoner: Cell  
Block H 12:35pm The ITV Chart Show 1:30  
Flack Newsweek 2:00-2:30 The  
World's Most Wanted Man 3:00  
5:00 Flac: The Last Holidays (Margot  
Leonard, Vel Peñin)

**HTV WALES**  
As London escaped... 12:30pm-12:55  
Survival 2:00 Farming Wales 2:30-2:55 The  
Specialist View of Guinness Records

**TSW**  
As London escaped... 12:30pm-1:00 Farming  
Wales 1:20 Here Come the Girls  
2:25 Off the Hook 2:55 Jim Hancock Presents  
Mother Goose Stories 3:05 Flac: George and  
the Dragon 3:30 The World's Most  
Wanted Man 3:55 5:00 5:30  
Bullseye 11:35 Prisoner: Cell  
Block H 12:35pm Flack Newsweek  
Night 1:00 Spy 2:00 Flac: Wordman 3:40  
The World's Most Wanted Man 5:40  
Flac: The Week 4:10-5:00 ITV Coast Strip

**TVS**  
As London escaped... 12:30pm-1:00 Agenda

**HANDS** to Heaven 2.55 Pick of the Week 5.00 The A-Team 6.00-8.30 y 11.35 The Speculator World of Guinness  
12.00 Heaven 12.55 The Great Earth  
Shirts: Savageos 3.30 Pick of the Week  
5.00 The Hit Man and Her

**THE TEES**  
12.00 The Tees concept 12.25pm-1.00 Heaven-  
even 3.10 The Back Page 3.40  
y Kingdom 6.00 All Cased Up 5.35-  
6.30 The Back Page 6.30-7.00  
Night 9.00 1.00 I Spy 2.00 Pick  
of the Week 3.40 Pick of the Week 4.10-  
4.15 The Chat Show.

**THEATER**  
12.00 The Tees concept 12.25pm-1.00 Garden-  
time 2.00 Farming Union 2.30 The  
Specular World of Guinness Records  
3.00-3.30 The Back Page 3.40-  
3.45 All Cased Up 5.35-6.30  
The Back Page 6.30-7.00 The  
Speculator 7.10-7.35 Presenter: Cliff  
Black 7.35-8.00 The Great Earth  
Show 8.00-8.30 Pick of the Week 4.10-  
4.15 The Chat Show.

**AKSHIRE**  
12.00 The Tees concept 12.25pm Goals on  
the Goals 12.55 News 2.00  
The Carre Mullery 4.00 Cartoon Time  
The Speculator World of Guinness  
Records 5.00-5.30 The Back Page  
5.35-6.30 The Back Page 6.30-7.00  
The Speculator 7.10-7.35 Monster  
Mish-

12.25pm  
1.05 Pick of the  
2.05 The TV  
3.00-3.30  
England 4.30-5.00

**S4C**  
Start: 6.00am E  
10.00-10.45  
11.00-11.30  
Welshos 12.55 No  
Backer Band 1.30  
2.00-2.30  
Year 4.00 Pick of  
the Cinema 5.35  
Spokane 7.00  
Newydd 7.10  
8.30 Deidun C  
9.00-9.30  
Football 11.30 The  
Shadow of our  
12.00

**NETWORK 2**  
12.00-12.30  
New York Bear St  
Centre of the Earth  
12.30-1.00  
3.00 American Ga  
Festival 4.15 C  
5.00-5.30 News 2  
Fair City 8.00-8.  
9.00 Film: Loma  
Tiffie to Face

[illegible]

**Patrin and Terrace Stamp**  
11:30 DDA (B&B) A poised man  
has just 24 hours to make his name  
before he's gone. Starring Dennis Quaid.  
1.30m Less Than Zero (1987) A  
lovely hills landscape (Kevin McCarthy)  
returns to cinema that the friends  
are addicted to the good life.  
4.00 Desert Storm (1988) A recently  
discovered battle call on the intermi-  
nated Quintaglio (Michael Keaton)  
to rescue his wife and children from their  
home. Ends 5.30

**EUROSPORT**  
6.00am As Sky One 9.00 Football  
Soccer 9.30 World Set Six 10.00 Three  
Tenor 11.00 The World's Top Surfer  
Magazine 12.30m European's Sunday:  
PGA Golf - Volvo Tour: Artistic  
Gymnastics World Cup - Sport  
7.00 Football 9.00 Artistic Gymnastics  
World Cup 11.00 PGA Golf

**SCREENSPORT**  
5.30am American Professional Boxing  
7.00 Matchroom Pro Boxing 8.00 Motor  
Sport 9.30 "G" Dutch Motor Sports  
10.00 Spanish Sport 11.00 Spanish  
Snooker 12.30pm Weekend Live: The  
Venetian Beach Race (NB: The following  
programme is subject to last minute  
changes) 5.15 Motor Sport F2000 6.15 Ten-

• **Starting Car and Nicotia Cigarette**  
 • **Personal Services (1987)**, In-  
 • **tertainment (1988)**, **Comedy**, **Cyn-**  
 • **ical**, **John Walters** stars as a  
 • **wrestler** who drifts into prostitution  
 • **in The Missionary (1989)**, **Comedy**  
 • **ing** **Michael Penn** who returns from Alti-  
 • **ummary** has childhood sweetheart  
 • **and** **his** **friend** **become** **a** **million**  
 • **man** **Woman**  
 • **Monomaniac** **Ends** **3:10**

**G GALAXY**  
 • **9:00am** **6:00am** **Teenage Mutant**  
 • **Turtles** **8:30am** **The Incredible Hulk** **9:00**  
 • **and** **Island** **9:30am** **The Fallaten**  
 • **and** **the** **Deadly** **Dead** **10:00am**  
 • **11:00am** **11:30am** **The New Fanc-**  
 • **ies** **12:00pm** **Four** **12:30pm** **Time of Your Life** **1:00pm**  
 • **and** **1:30pm** **The Facts of Life** **2:00pm**  
 • **and** **2:30pm** **The Secret** **3:00pm**  
 • **Teenage** **Mutant** **Hero** **Turtles**  
 • **3:30pm** **Grange Hill** **The Early Years** **3:50pm**  
 • **and** **4:20pm** **The Early Years** **4:40pm**  
 • **4:50pm** **The Travels** **5:00pm** **Doctor**  
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 • **and**

at 3.00 Houston

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10.00 Scotland  
4.00 Tanna: Stockholm  
dest 1.30 Foot-  
4.45 Tanna: Stockholm  
6.30 Rugby  
Great Britain 8.15  
Allan Event, Tanna  
10.30 Sportadesk  
stl Magazine  
12.30 Tanna

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9.30 Go Fishing  
Ae Smith 10.30 Get-  
house 11.30 Tahn  
ed on Sunday 1.00pm  
SSR 2.00 Impenal  
Recall 4.00 Tintoretto  
1.10 Friedrich  
0 Sunday Opera:  
0 Muzuko Uchida .

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of rock and pop

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7:55am Weather  
7:00 Morning Concert: Alton  
(Conductor for seven tours)  
Hansel and Gretel  
Concert under Friedhelm  
Immerly; Gleazoun (Viola)  
Conductor; Israel Plo (Violin)  
Zakaria (Bass); Richard  
Parfimer, violin  
7:30 News  
7:35 Morning Concert (cont.)  
Symphony No. 1  
(Conductor); Beethoven  
Cello Suite and Prospero  
Vogels: Ambrosian  
Symphony No. 1  
under Michael Tison  
The Schubert (Symphony No. 1)  
Chamber Orchestra of  
under Claudio Abbado  
8:30 News  
8:35 Handel's Chandos Anthem  
The fifth of six programs  
Symphony No. 1  
under Trevor Pinnoch;  
Chandos Anthem No. 10,  
Lord Is My Light: Soloists  
and Chorus  
Christopher, with Lynn  
Dawson; soprano, Jane  
Parfimer, (soprano)  
9:15 News  
9:15 The first of the first  
programs of the recovers  
of the cellist Jacqueline  
Bach (Solo No. 2) with  
Soloist  
Mendelssohn (Song with  
Words in D, Op. 102 with  
Geraldine)  
Schubert (Cello Concert)  
A minor, Op. 129 with the  
Philharmonia Orchestra  
(Conductor)  
0:15 Music Weekly with Peter  
Naah  
Organ by Deodato  
Piano, 10:00  
Mozart, ein Mittag und  
Anden in Wien: RPO  
Gustav Kuhn: S.S.  
Soloist: R. Fox, Inc.  
Soloist, piano; Lutz  
(Symphonies); Bass  
SO under  
Soloist (Piano concerto)  
flut. Op. 44; Guernsey  
with Arthur Robinson;  
Soloist  
USSR Symphony Orchestra  
under Yevgeny Svetlanov  
2:50pm Table  
Soloist of O'Harden has  
arrived on cymans,  
amellies and Spam. H.  
to Leslie Forbes  
3:00pm News  
3:05pm Concert Choice with  
Guernsey, Bethany (Variations)  
on a Theme by Brahms  
35, Book 1, David  
piano; piano (classical)  
soloist; soloist (classical)  
Prattman; Orchestra  
Charles Dufay, with Soloist

g. s: r: p: t:	et Prestor: Marcel Mule Saxophone Quartet; Brahms (Variations on a Theme by Paganini, Op 35, Book 2: 2-4: Pachelbel, piano; Lutoslawski (Concerto for Orchestra: Cleveland Orchestra under Dobynski)	(g) 5.
man	2.30 Leslie Pong, the soloist, with Irwin Gage, piano, sings: Dvořák (Kázání a slávy; V tém memento ardu; Mr ardu sesto; O byl to krasný; Kol domu at); Mahler (Riesengesandten; Ich ging mit Lust durch einem grünen Wald; Abschied in den Wald; Köhnen Trompeten blasen; Wer hat dies Liedlein erdenzt?); Wolf (Im trübnis; Agnes; In der Frühe; An eine Achterbahn; Strauss (Färrnalsbäum; Ein Ocladch gegen Sturm und Regen; Morgen; Wiesenlied; er- stauer Sommer; in goldener Fülle), incl 3:05 Interval Reading	7.
s: r: p: t:	4.00 C. Welsh SO under Hayden Thomson performs Haydn (Symphony No 68 in C, Laudon); Nielsen (Symphony No 6, Sinfonia Semplice) (1)	8.
g: s: r: p: t:	5.00 Southing: Michael Oliver and Pierluigi Petrolchi, director of the Verdi Institute, explore Verdi's estate at Sant' Agata near Parma	9.
g: s: r: p: t:	How Shall I Sing the Lord's Song ... 7: From St Paul's Church, Suffolk, Canon Noel Vincent leads a meditation on the festivals of All Souls and All Saints, based on the teachings of the Festival and other sacred texts. With the BBC Northern Singers under Stephen Hirst	9.
g: s: r: p: t:	7.00 Mozart (String Quartet in D, K 575; Vogler Quartet) (1)	11.
g: s: r: p: t:	7.30 Sunday Play: The Royal Mischief. A Rehearsal play, by Mary Delamarley	11.
g: s: r: p: t:	9.00 Ustlar Orchestra; BBC Singers under John Lubbock perform Cesland (Fantasia for the Common Man); Adams (Shaker Loops); Stravinsky (Requiem Canticles); Adkins Thomas (Black Rite); Stephan Montague (At the White Edge of Phrygia); Stravinsky (Circus Polka)	12.
g: s: r: p: t:	10.35 Brahms (Sonata No 2 in A; Leo Poyres, viola; Philip Shannoon, piano)	1.
g: s: r: p: t:	11.05 Luthames Festival of Baroque Music: Bach Ensemble under David Rittlin performs Bach (Cantata No 76, Jesu, der du meine Seele; Cantata No 39, Bist du dem Hungerten dein Brod); incl 12:30 Interval	2.
g: s: r: p: t:	12.00 News 12.30am Close	4.

**are on FM**  
man Shipping Forecast 6.00  
**News Briefing:** Weather 8.10  
Presidential Inauguration 9.10  
Lofthouse (s) 9.30 News)  
Morning Hies Broken (s) 6.55  
Weather  
News 10 Sunday Papers  
7.15 On Your Farm: Anthony  
Rosen talks to Brian  
Chamberlain; special  
New Zealand's Black Country for  
New Zealand 7.40 Sunday,  
with Andrew Green and Trevor  
Barnes, and 7.55 Weather  
News Sunday Papers  
8.06 Samantha Beckles  
appears on behalf of the  
Family Heart Association 8.55  
Weather  
News  
Sunday Papers  
Letter from America by Alister  
Cook (s)  
Morning Service from the  
Methodist Church, Horsham,  
Sussex (s)  
The Archers: Omnibus edition  
News Stand: Andrew  
Rawnsley reviews the  
periodicals  
The World at Work:  
with Margaret Howard (s) (r)  
on Desert Island Discs: Sue  
Lawley with Nicholas  
Snowden, Director of  
South Bank Centre (s) 12.55  
Weather  
The World This Weekend 1.55  
Shipping Forecast  
Gardeners' Question Time  
Clay Jones overseas a  
postbag edition With Dr  
Stephen Fry and Fred  
Dowling and Sue Phillips  
Sunday Showhouse: Episodes on  
Friday, Saturday, and  
Haworth. A bomb scare brings  
adverse publicity to the  
owners of a seedy local  
café.  
The Radio Programme (new  
series): Laune Taylor reviews  
the major events in radio of  
the past week.  
Launch of Radio 5 and Kiss FM  
News: Analysis, Moneybags  
and Brains, in the first of two  
programmes. Peter Hannessy  
examines the costs and  
benefits to Britain of the  
"spiced" lamb, with the  
United States since 1945 (r)  
Time For Verso: Carol Ann  
Duffy writes the Charleston  
column.  
News: Down Your Way: Phil  
Smith explores the city of York

5.40 The Fine  
Shoes At  
evenings  
6.00 News  
6.15 Feedback:  
listeners  
BBC pro  
(r)  
6.30 Sales For  
reports he  
equipped  
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12.00-12.30am  
Weather  
Forecast

Advertisements: Radio 1: 1053x4x/25m; 1089x4x/27.5m;  
Radio 2: 1215x4x/24Tm, FM48.5x/24Tm;  
Radio 3: 893x4x/123m; 508x4x/230m, V  
4x/433m; Jazz: FM 102.2, LBC: 1152x4x/25m;  
Radio 4: 1015x4x/24Tm; 1459x4x/22m; FM 94.8; M  
1015x4x/24Tm; 1459x4x/22m; FM 94.8; M

ings: Part 2:  
ly's passions for  
jects (7) 5.50  
Weather

Chris Dunkley airs  
complaints about  
armies and policy

Anna Grayson  
the English British  
theatre, and how  
where British arms  
are marketed there

and Dangerously:  
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ions of her poems

the Nigel Forde (1)  
2. Solicitors  
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een: Children from  
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ct Baker (2)  
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History  
examines the fate  
and the  
9.55 Weather

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ffects on how four  
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significance (5)  
ings, and 12.20  
3 Shipping

7.55 B&B, 8.20  
15.55 FM, 4.45  
News; MW  
M 97.3, Capital:  
FM 104.9.

**SKY MOVIES**

6.00am Showcase, and at 7.40  
Isleworth Tonight

8.00am Fantasy Film (1989): Chevy  
and Madelyn Smith search the city  
for life in the desert

10.00am The Crooks (1976): Mickey  
Rourke (as Whitey Marmorek) is the  
hero to find a job

11.00am Vase Zapata! (1985): Marlon  
Brando as Mexican revolution  
Emiliano Zapata

12.00pm The Accidental Tourist  
(1988): William Hurt learns to be  
of the world and separation from his  
wife (Kathleen Turner)

3.00pm Caddyshack 2 (1989): Comedian  
Arthur (Dudman) and his friends  
attend a golfing membership of the  
Beverlywood Country Golf Club

5.00pm The Last of the Mojaros (1989):  
Spain's great novel comes to the screen  
starring Tom Hanks

7.40pm Jock  
6.00am Working Girl (1989): Helen  
Mirren stars in an ambitious Wall Street  
story. Co-stars Stephen Wajsbort and  
Harrison Ford

8.00am The Children (1988): Set in  
year 1901, 'Newcomers' immigrate  
into society, struggling being integra-  
ted into society. Starring James Caan

**RADIO 1**

One's 3.00 Philip Schofield 5.00  
7.00am 12.00-2.00am John Peel

**RADIO 2**

One's 3.00 Philip Schofield 5.00  
7.00am 12.00-2.00am John Peel

**RADIO 5**

One's 3.00 Philip Schofield 5.00  
7.00am 12.00-2.00am John Peel

**World Service**

Business, Omnibus edition, and 10  
Soundscapes: At The Third Shore  
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**MTV**  
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

**LIFESTYLE**  
12.00 Captain Jack's 12.30pm One Step Beyond 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 2.00 Championship Road 2.45 Spin Spin International Cinema 3.00 Wrestling 4.00 Newsline 4.30scape 5.00 Work Tracy Y Cmc Incorporated 6.00 The Self-View Shopping Channel

**BSB MOVIES**  
12.40pm Whenever She Goes (1951, V) *Claggett* *Bringing the early life of Australian painter Helen Jones.*  
2.15 *Loser Takes All* (1958): Comedy-drama about a newly-wedded couple who try out the perfect system for winning roulette on their *Melanie Clark* honeymoon 4.00 *The Night Train to Kathmandu* (1987): *Claggett* *Archives* *James Harrison* with his family and chances upon a lost Himalayan civilization  
6.00 *The Secret of My Success* (1957): *An ambitious mail room boy (Michael J. Fox) sojourns his way into the board room*  
8.00 *Moonstruck* (1987): Comedy-re-

**FIM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jerry Casale**  
7.00 *The Bruno and Leek Breakfast Show* 9.30 *20/20* 10.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear* 1.00 *Top Gear* 2.00 *Top Gear* 3.00 *Top Gear* 4.00 *Top Gear* 5.00 *Top Gear* 6.00 *Top Gear* 7.00 *Top Gear* 8.00 *Top Gear* 9.00 *Top Gear* 10.00 *Top Gear* 11.00 *Top Gear* 12.00 *Top Gear*

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Have you ever visited the French vineyard and enjoyed yourself walking around in old cellars, splendid Burgundy vintage or an unforgettable Beaujolais? You surely know or can imagine how exciting it is.

In France, we do this search for our customers. We travel a zigzag of thousands of miles through vineyards and select, on their behalf, the 100 authentic wines and 30 brandies and liqueurs, prestigious awards in contests. At the same time, we offer them the best choice of the Beaujolais vintage or of the Bordeaux "primeur".

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Today, we offer you to share this position and our passion of wines. We will be the French company that represents you in the vineyard and provides you with high quality French wines, at attractive prices, without middlemen, delivering directly to your door.


Do not hesitate: join us. We are not a club but a duty into a regular commitment or into the quantity of each wine. Complete and post the coupon. We will receive our English catalogue - Free and without obligation - and special wine offers that should not be missed.



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## LES VIEUX GUY JOUENT MAÎTRES

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and the French vineyard***


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Do not hesitate: join us. We are not a club and you will not be tied into a regular commitment or into ordering a minimum quantity of each wine. Complete and post the coupon below. You will receive our English catalogue — Free and with no obligation — and special wine offers that should not be missed.



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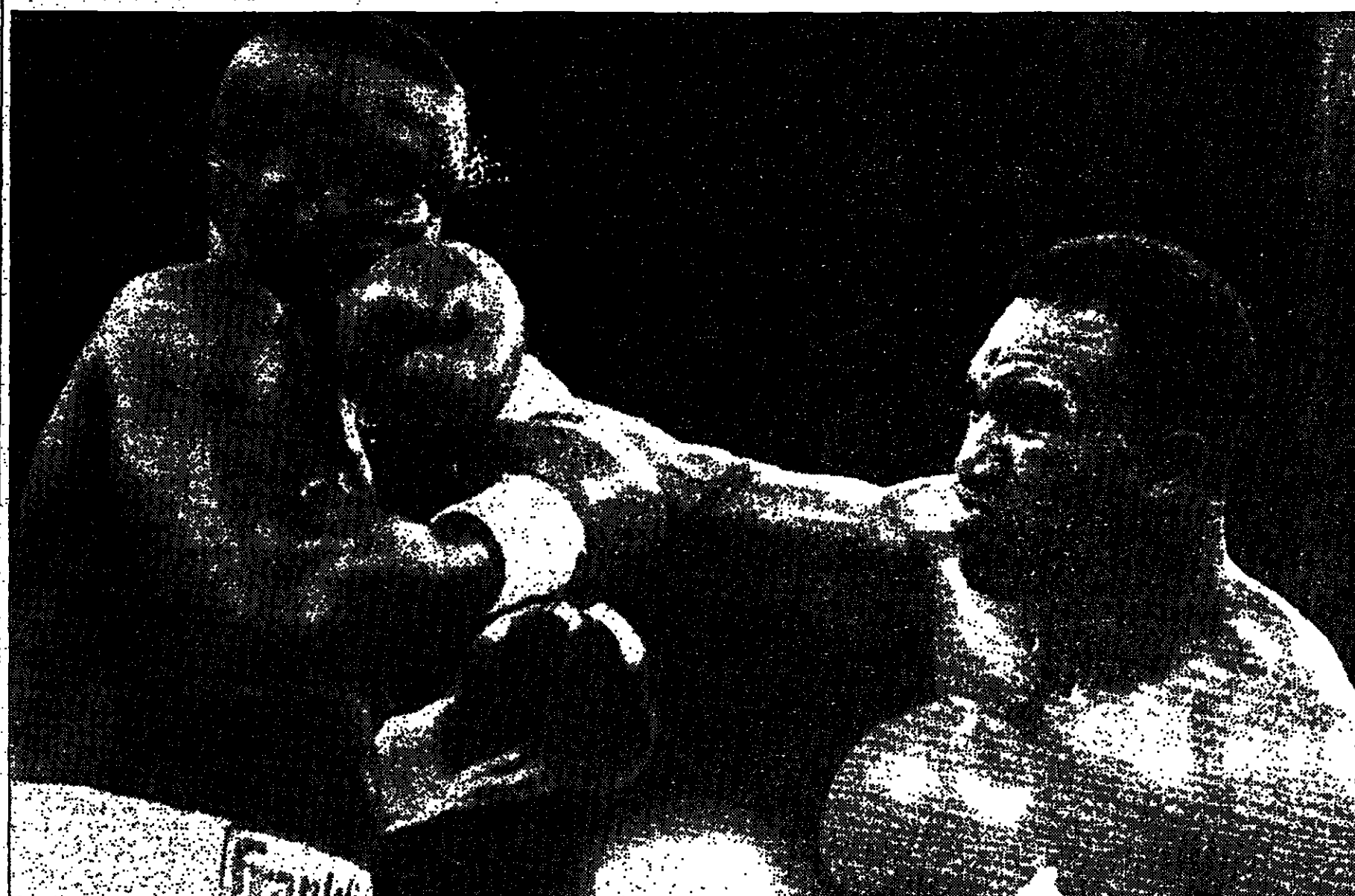


● SPORT 27-33  
● RACING 32-33  
● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 34-39  
● SPORT 40-46

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 1990

## SPORT

## Holyfield snatches the title from a sleeping champion



The right that toppled the champion: Douglas takes a blow flush on the face from Holyfield, who followed up with a left to finish the contest in the third round

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN  
BOXING CORRESPONDENT  
LAS VEGAS

JAMES "Buster" Douglas, of Columbus, who eight months ago became the undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion with a breathtaking display against Mike Tyson, astonished us again yesterday. He lost the title to Evander Holyfield with one of the worst performances seen from a champion in this division.

Douglas was knocked out in the third round, before a capacity crowd of 16,100 at the Mirage Hotel here. In those seven minutes and ten seconds of action, Douglas landed one blow, a clumsy right hand in the final round. He was too busy looking for an escape route to stay long enough in one place to land a discouraging blow on the advancing challenger who, at 208lb, was 38lb lighter.

Flushed with his one success, Douglas threw a right uppercut from what he thought was a safe distance, forgetting that an uppercut from out of range is dangerous to the thrower. He lost his balance and Holyfield, always within striking range, dropped his short right on Douglas's chin. "I saw him step in and he lowered his shoulder and I caught him with the right," Holyfield said.

Douglas fell sideways to the floor, rolled on to his back, lifted his head, wiped his forehead with his right glove and lay back again while Mills Lane, the referee, started counting. He closed sleepless eyes as if Lane was counting sheep. Later, Lane was to say: "He could have got up."

It was the type of performance that in England might have made

the boxing board withhold Douglas's purse pending an inquiry, but here, where "due process" dictates, Douglas went home with his \$24 million (about £12.3 million), the highest fee paid to a sportsman.

Holyfield, who was only the second world light-heavyweight champion to win the heavyweight title — Michael Spinks was the first — was left with \$8 million and what could be seen in days to come as a hollow victory.

Even though he boxed well, continuously getting past the 5½in reach advantage of Douglas, Holyfield's performance is in danger of being devalued. His critics will say Douglas was grossly overweight and did not train properly.

Two of the three world bodies that ordered the winner of the bout to defend against Mike Tyson within 120 days have changed their minds. Robert Lee, of the International Boxing Federation, said that so long as Holyfield meets Tyson within a year, he would be allowed to make a voluntary defence against George

## THE CHAMPION

Born: Atmore, Alabama, Oct 19 1962.  
Amateur career: 1984 Olympic light-heavyweight bronze medal-winner.

Professional career: 1986 WBA light-heavyweight champion and IBF cruiserweight champion; 1988 WBC cruiserweight champion; 1989 WBC Continental Americas heavyweight champion; 1989 undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

Professional record: 25 wins (21 knock-outs), 0 defeats.

Status: Married, to Pauline, with four children.

Foreman Jimmy Binns, of the World Boxing Association, said the WBA would be happy to receive a request from Holyfield to meet Foreman. He gave the champion a four-month extension beyond February 25.

So inept was Douglas's performance that ringers were still shaking their heads long after the loser had gone to his hotel room to count his money. Eddie Futch, the trainer, who used to be in Joe Frazier's corner, was flabbergasted.

He had tipped Douglas before the weigh-in. He castigated him. "I thought 'Buster' Douglas was disgraceful. For a heavyweight champion to come in in that condition was outlandish. By today he was perhaps even 250lb."

Futch also thought Douglas was having a lie-in. "He could have got up. When he went down he brushed a glove across his eyes as though he was trying to see if there was any blood. I thought from that that he could have got up. He treated the greatest prize in the sporting world with disdain. It was outrageous."

From the moment Holyfield caught Douglas with a jab and a right seconds after the first bell, Douglas did not want to know. The right sent him sideways. He threw up his right hand as if telling a bus to stop at his Request Stop. Had a bus come along, he would have jumped on it.

Douglas started snatching at those jobs that had taken care of Tyson for ten rounds. He wanted to be in and away. When Holyfield

beated him round the stomach, he closed his eyes and backed off, bent double.

Until the uppercut that he essayed in the third round, Douglas's only punch was the jab, thrown from a safe distance and so well short of the target. It was hardly the repertoire of a champion.

Those who thought Douglas would win were misled by the champion, who kept insisting he was 232lb. "The same as in Tokyo," he kept saying. His weight was a well-kept secret, but like the little man in Edward G. Robinson's stomach in the film *Double Indemnity*, that kept saying something was wrong, there was a nagging doubt about Douglas's weight and frame of mind.

Had it been known that he was 246lb, things would have been clearer. People would have realised that as Douglas was set up for life and hated boxing, it was time to take the \$24 million and run. Now it is all so obvious. As Edward G. said on figuring out Fred MacMurray's scheme: "It all fits together like a watch."

## Italia 90 boost to crowds

By LOUISE TAYLOR

FOOTBALL attendances are rising at their steepest rate since the England World Cup triumph in 1966. Three months on from England's appearance in the semi-finals of Italia 90, first division crowds have risen by 13.8 per cent on last year, and if the improvement is maintained, total gates should approach the nine million mark this season.

The decision to revert to a 22-club first division next season should ensure the upswing is sustained. Clubs promoted last season have fared best, with Sunderland's gates up by 50 per cent and Sheffield United's by 36 per cent. Crystal Palace, the losing FA Cup finalists in May, have enjoyed a 27 per cent rise, while for Tottenham Hotspur, the employers of Paul Gascoigne and Gary Lineker, the figure is 26 per cent.

Bill Fox, the president of the Football League, said: "We have turned the corner. The game is once again surging forward. Obviously it is largely down to England's success in the World Cup, but there are other factors involved. Hooliganism is no longer the problem that it has been in the past, and the quality of the sport has risen."

"Televised games like Aston Villa's European match with Inter Milan this week, prove how much the game is improving, and generate interest. It all helps create a stage for us to implement the recommendations contained in the Taylor Report, and to fulfil our aim of staging a World Cup or European championship in England."

"I do not think the change to a 22-club first division has had much bearing on the attendances, because that will not come into play until next season."

Clough's goal, page 29

## Edberg to fight fines

STEFAN Edberg, the world No. 1 tennis player, has said he will appeal against fines imposed for not playing his full quota of tournaments on the IBM/Association of Tennis Professionals Tour (Andrew Longmore writes).

Edberg was fined approximately £70,000, which is 15 per cent of his earnings on the Tour this year, for being two tournaments short on his contractual commitment and it was reported that he had agreed to pay But Edberg, who had the option to add two tournaments to his schedule next year instead of paying, denied that yesterday.

"Fifteen per cent is too high," he said. "I never agreed to pay that amount. I was injured at the start of the year and could not play in two tournaments."

Edberg's decision came as a surprise to the ATP, which had received no petition. It has also fined Ivan Lendl and Andre Agassi.

SUMMARY  
Clough's career

IT IS 25 years ago today since Brian Clough, (above), then aged 30, began his career as a football manager with Hartlepool United, who were second from bottom of the fourth division.

Since then, as manager of Derby County and Nottingham Forest, he has reached the heights of footballing achievement, winning two first division championships, two European Cups and four League Cups. Clive White considers the secrets of an enduring success. Page 29

## RUGBY LEAGUE

## Strong start

AUSTRALIA have shown few signs of weakness on their tour so far, winning all of their matches, and they start the first international against Great Britain at Wembley today in confident mood. Preview. Page 31

## TENNIS

## Gomer out



SARAH Gomer (above) lost 6-1, 6-1 to Helena Sukova in the quarter-finals of the Midland Bank tournament at the Brighton Centre yesterday, thus ending British hopes of success there. Andrew Longmore reports. Page 30

## RUGBY UNION

## All change

BARELY three months have passed since Argentina beat England in Buenos Aires but the team that will play Ireland at Lansdowne Road today shows many changes. Ireland have a new coach, Ciaran Fitzgerald, and will be looking to improve on their showing last season. Page 31

## GOLF

## Record round

WITH a course-record 65, José Rivero joined another Spaniard, José-Maria Olazábal, in the lead at the halfway stage in the Volvo Masters at Valderrama, Spain. They were on 141, a shot ahead of Mike Harwood and Sam Torrance. Page 32

## SKIING

## Down turn



THE British invented downhill racing but for years, British competitors in the sport have been regarded as a bit of a joke. But, as Brian James reports, Martin Bell (above) and others are bringing professionalism to the British approach. Page 28

## RACING

## Dayjur dream

DAYJUR, the champion sprinter of Europe, takes on the best American speed horses in the Breeders' Cup Sprint at Belmont Park, New York, today. The Dick Hern-trained colt heads a six-strong British challenge on the seven-race, \$10 million programme, the richest day's racing in the world. Page 33

## Ali claim damning and damaging

New York

ANOTHER heavyweight boxing contest takes place in Las Vegas — me, I'm just seeking peace, quiet, good taste and good food over here. Every town is beautiful and every sport is delightful after Las Vegas and boxing (apart from Atlantic City, of course). Meanwhile, this week, America has been treated to further revelations about Muhammad Ali. It has now been made clear that a brain scan demonstrated that Ali had brain damage as far back as 1981 — before his last fight. The information, published in *Parade* magazine, comes from Dr. Ferdie Pacheco, formerly Ali's physician and a central member of the entourage, now estranged.

It will not come as a great shock to anyone. Ali is in a truly pitiable state: a walking public service announcement on the subject of the dangers of boxing. "They say it's because of Parkinson's Disease," Pacheco said. "But did the condition come from one fight too many? Before his last fight with Trevor Berbick, a CAT scan showed *cavum septum pellucidum*, damage to the brain." To suffer concussion is to suffer brain damage, ergo the aim of boxing is to cause brain damage. Professional boxing is a form of public duelling, nothing less. And if boxing can lay low the greatest, what does it do to the sport's underclass and majority faction of multiple losers?

SIMON BARNES  
ON SATURDAY

## The bear facts of life

THIS column's hero of the week is Tony LaRussa, manager of the Oakland A's, the team which has just lost the World Series. He is featured in a new advertising campaign by the Humane Society of the United States. His picture is accompanied by the words: "When you buy fur, you really strike out."

LaRussa is a long-time supporter of animal rights. His office bridge carries a sticker which reads: "Support your right to arm bears". The Fur Information Council was predictably snuffy about it all, but me, I am cheering for LaRussa and for bears everywhere. What is more, I look forward to cheering the first animal rights supporter in English football.

## Quick-change artist

Dan Miller was a very narrow miss for this column's ever-coveted nomination as hero of the week. Miller is a football player — gridiron variety — from Londonderry, New Hampshire. He plays linebacker for Londonderry High School... but when it is half-time, he changes into another uniform and plays

drum in the school marching band as they give their half-time performance.

As soon as play starts again, Miller is into another quick-change routine. It is hard work being a renaissance schoolboy: "The cleats and pants are the hardest part of the changeover," he said. "The shoes alone have two different pairs of laces to undo before I can take them off."

Salutations to Jergens skin cream for boldly going where no skin cream has gone before. They are the first sponsors to put a company logo onto the uniforms of college cheerleaders. The history-making ladies are from Memphis State University.

## Money for old rope

NOSTALGIA is one of sport's staples. Trying to convince a person that the cricketers of today might be roughly competent, and that the players of his own far-off youth may have had their off-days, is like sneering at a person's religion. The phenomenon exists all right but how do you set about making money from it? Lee Trevino has cracked it. He is now 50, which made him eligible this year for the grand nostalgia circuit — the Senior Professional Golf Association Tour in the United States.

While the young clones in their polyester trousers and polo shirts

lose the Ryder Cups, the grand old buffers strut their stuff and live on the public's memories. The stunt is so successful that Trevino will have earned \$1 million (about £513,000) from his year by the time the season ends. The leading money-winner on the proper Tour — the one that is supposed to be about the pursuit of excellence rather than nostalgia — is Greg Norman. He trails Trevino with a mere \$907,000. Beth Daniel is the leading money-winner on the women's tour with \$863,578.

## Hurling headlong

MORE nostalgia. It is becoming the thing for great athletes just a touch past their prime to go bobbleheading. Allan Wells made an unprepossessing start to this new career when he fell over during the push-start in the British Open championship in Germany this week, but Edwin Moses, the great American hurdler, is talking a fine bobblehead. "The pushing is the key to it," he said. "Anybody can get in the sled and hold on." Presumably no one had told him about Wells's excitement.

This week, Moses has gone to Calgary to partner Brian Shimer in the two-man bob. The long-term aim is a gold medal at the Winter Olympics. The only person to have won gold at summer and winter Games was a gentleman called Eddie Egan, an American who won a boxing gold in 1920 and a bobsleigh gold in 1932.

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# British lions of the track must beware circus

FRANK Dick, the chief national coach of the British Amateur Athletic Board, who helped guide the British team to a record number of medals in the European championships in Split this year, is seriously concerned at the possibility of British sprinters becoming involved in contrived commercial promotions involving Ben Johnson.

Although he concedes that athletes are free agents, entitled to make their own judgment on ethical issues, Dick is worried at the possible damage that any such involvement may do to the image of the national sport and also of the individual. Britain have several international sprinters whom

promoters would be eager to entice into circus events, the most obvious being Linford Christie and John Regis, respective gold medal winners at Split in the 100 and 200 metres.

"From the athlete's point of view, money is money, and I understand that," Dick says. "A top competitor may not have a long life at a peak. But then there is the question of principle. I realise some people will ask who am I to talk about principle, when an athlete's financial career is involved. Yet I think everyone should look carefully at who will benefit, for whom such races are primarily staged. It is the promoters who are the most at fault."



**COMMENT**  
**DAVID MILLER**  
CHIEF SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

When Carl Lewis made his first appearance in Europe this summer, at Lausanne, he revealed, in an interview in *The Times*, that he would not be party to any such contrived events with Johnson: that any meeting between the two of them, once Johnson became eligible to race again, would have to be in a scheduled International Amateur Athletic Federation

(IAAF) event. There is now reason to doubt whether Lewis will stick to his word on this. The financial pressures on Lewis are mounting to accept a meeting: though Lewis was still saying in London this week that it would have to be in a scheduled, IAAF-approved event. Johnson won the 100 metres final in the Olympic Games in

Seoul in 1988, was subsequently found positive in the mandatory drug test, and overnight turned from hero to villain. He was suspended by the International Olympic Committee, his title removed, and he was sent home in disgrace by the Canadian Olympic Association. His world records were subsequently erased.

However, Johnson's suspension was for two years and last month he again became eligible to compete. The Canadian Athletics Federation has accepted his reinstatement, and he is due to run his first race, indoors, at Hamilton, Ontario on January 11. He has several times proved negative in drug-testing in recent months.

Dick is of the opinion that athletes could have a big influence on future attitudes to drugs if they act in unison. "I think that athletes should stand strong on this, and not get involved," he says. "Linford confirmed to me, while I was speaking to him about other matters this week, that he has not said he will compete against Johnson in a special event."

"If a British competitor is drawn against Johnson in an IAAF event, such as next year's world championships in Tokyo, Johnson having been officially reinstated, that is another matter. Go out and beat him."

There have been confusing stories that Christie might be in-

terested in racing against Johnson for money. Dick makes the point that had Johnson been British, his career, and any financial potential in athletics, would have been finished by a life ban.

Dick is sceptical, however, about Johnson's ability to return to the track at the same level at which he left it with a world record that was subsequently expunged from the books. Dick expects that a two-year absence will have left Johnson ring-rusty, and that he will have psychological difficulty returning to run against opponents without the benefit of drugs now that he is repeatedly undergoing random testing.

## Brian James discovers that Britain is no longer sending in the clowns for the white circus Goodbye to class cap and alpine bells

ACCORDING to P. G. Wodehouse, there is a grave danger in learning to ski: it is, he suggested, but a perilously short step to yodeling. This mood of mockery has remained too long with too many Britons, and partly explains why the most famous British winter sportsman is an amiable clown. Eddie Edwards, long on courage if short on imagination, is a chap bereft of world-class competence but mercifully unburdened by slyness.

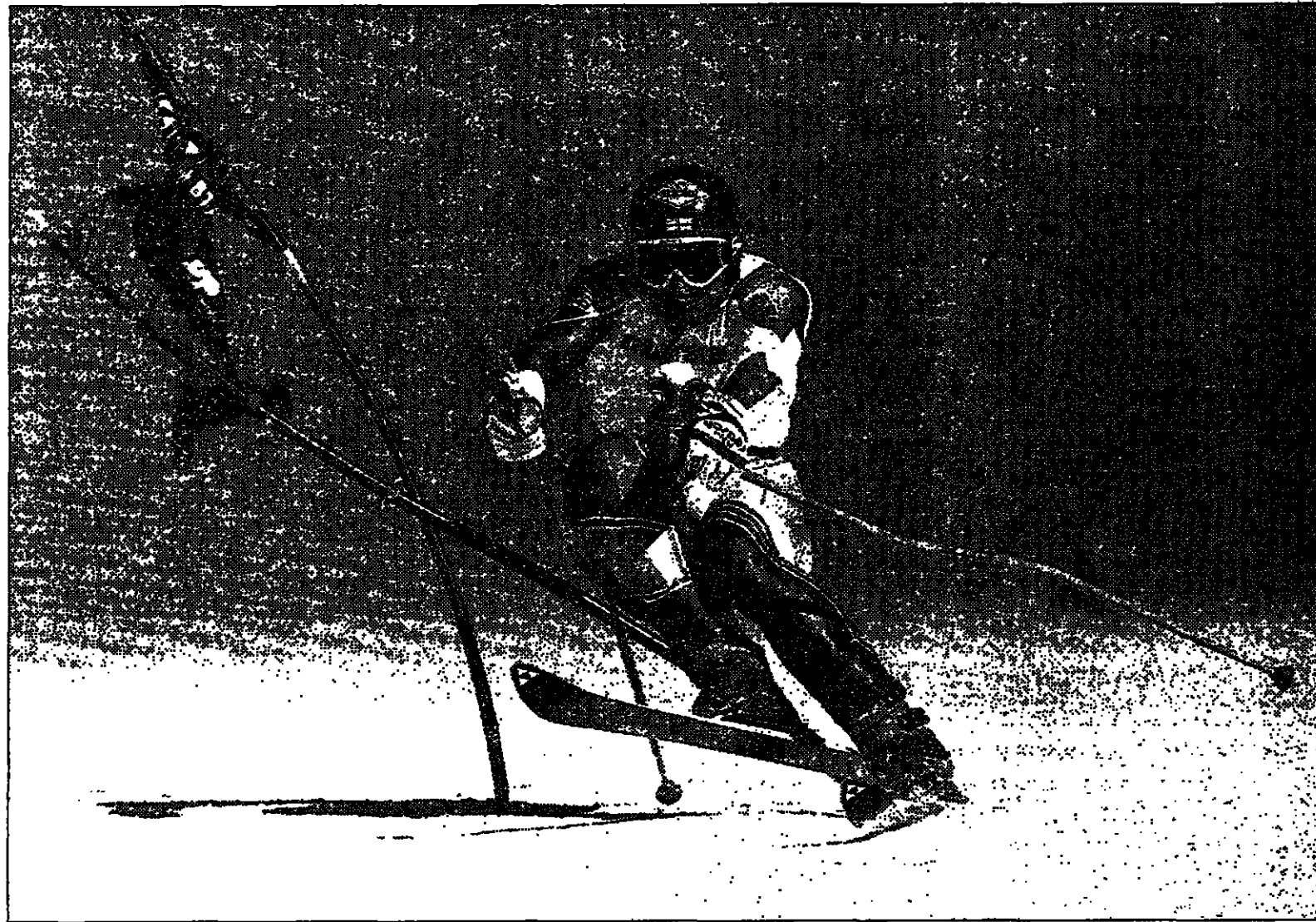
The Eddie Edwards factor was a constant tight-lipped topic in the Austrian ski resort of Hintersturtz this week, where the British alpine ski team was testing its far greater competence and equal nerve on the sheer icy pistes of the glacier. The resentment over the attention diverted to that famous non-achiever is based on hard reasons why Britain and winter sports are not terms always to be linked by a smirk.

One is Britain's historic role in creating the sport. Until the 1920s, Scandinavia dominated, insisting that only cowards and weaklings wanted to do anything else on skis other than jump off hills or yomp cross-country. It was Arnold Lunnon and his British compatriots who formulated downhill racing. With no Lunnon, there could have been no Klammer, no Killy, not even a David Vine.

Second is our lowland country's habit of producing the occasional racer with the grit to confound all probabilities and shoulder a place among the sport's best. The squad points to Martin Bell's Olympic tenth place in Calgary, when Britain, clocking helplessly over Edwards, barely managed a "well done". Tenth place? Worth applause? Tenth place? Worth applause?

Examine the arithmetic. On that day all the mountainous nations of the world, collectively calling on an elite distilled from hundreds of thousands who had been skiing since toddlerhood, could between them find only nine men who were better by fractions of a second than Bell, who had emerged from a cadre who could count on two hands.

Now comes a third reason to speak of British skiing with due respect. This week's assembly launched a new era of professionalism in preparation. It has been far too long in arriving. A decade ago British skiing was dominated by the well-intentioned and the well-learned, when a social circle in Belgrave was seen as sole qualification for office: the needs of — often literally — hungry youngsters fighting up from a beginning on school



Tolling the end of the ice age: Martin Bell, loosening up after his knee operation, warming to the task of putting Britain back on the ski map

ski-trips or inner-city dry-slopes went unrecognised.

Change began when Tom Fitzpatrick became chairman and piled in to reorganise the British Ski Federation. From this season the sport is run by a 12-man board on which each of the home nations, each of the sport's disciplines and the athletes have a voice. Four months ago, Mike Jardine, a man with a background in the sport and experience of management, took over as full-time chief executive.

The money and matériel for back-up increases dramatically. Last week Drambuie extended its ski-racing sponsorship, promising £400,000 over the next two years. With 60 per cent in income from the Sports Council, Britain's alpine team alone has a budget of £250,000. Austria has £2.25 million, but no matter: at least we can now be sure that our teams can stay in the Alps until the end of the season; older racers remember having to call home after each race to see if there was money in the kitty to proceed

We now have five vehicles to carry the squads between races. Lesley Beck, our leading woman, recalls hitch-hiking between countries and caddying accommodation from other teams. We have a computer that will not only manage the budgets, but also provide on-the-slope data, showing at a key-tap which skier performed best on what sort of snow and at what temperature and humidity. We have a video-camera with which to analyse technique — and a man to operate it and the radios which keep skiers on the start-line informed about conditions near the finish.

We have in Hatty Mück a full-time ski-factory technician, who once had Klammer among his clients. We have an experienced downhill coach, Hans Anewanter, an Austrian who worked with his own national team and then coached Frommelt and Wenzel, of Liechtenstein. We have a top skier in Martin Bell, who says: "At last we have got our act together. At long, long last. I

have been in the team since 1980. The changes have been fairly remarkable. The greatest is that we are no longer run by people of a certain social class — real managers, the meritocracy have taken over."

"Once there was no recognition that the standard of accommodation and travel, back-up by medical and technical personnel, were all part of feeling confident: living in the Alps for months, living out of a bag, confined when the weather closed in, led to claustrophobia, isolation. The mood now is very positive."

Anewanter was scornful of the notion that he had taken on a no-hope team. When Bell was skiing his best two years ago, finishing seven times in the top 10, "no one left until he came down — even though he was perhaps seeded 30". Anewanter believes that now that Bell has had an operation on the knee which has troubled him since a crash in 1988, he and his team-mates, his brother Graham Bell and "Boris" Duncan, can all win places in the World Cup top

pack. And then? Martin Bell: "Between tenth and first, a split second. If I did not think I could win a World Cup or Olympic medal, I would not keep on. The life, the graft would not be worth it." Beck: "Can a British woman come first? I believe I can. Else I wouldn't be here."

It was not all smiles at Hintersturtz. The team assembled to hear announced the selection procedure for the world championships. Instant disagreement, hot debate. Hidden agenda gleamed through: in the belief of some that scarce resources were supporting no-hopers and downhillers' conviction that rankings were more easily achieved in the less-dangerous slaloms.

Jardine, agreeing to have the plan rethought, was undismayed: "There was a lot of history bubbling below the surface. But for the first time the athletes have been able to speak their mind instead of muttering in secret." Duncan: "There is this great new mood."

But old suspicions, a bit of paranoia, remain. We all have horror stories of how we have been treated. Once they even came and took back our skis."

To ski for Britain you still need a generous dad. Beck says: "As our No. 1, I have to find several thou a year. Know anyone who wants to put his logo on my hat?" Or what you have to become, according to our best slalomist, Sean Langmuir, was "great at coping. I go everywhere on my own. No coach, no one to confide in. I have had to become a great self-salesman to get sponsorship. All wonderful training for life."

Out into the village square of Hintersturtz this week several of our men mounted on unicycles, the sort on which clowns make their entrance. But this device improves leg-strength and balance, and from these set faces you were aware that within the "white circus" (which is what continental skis are called) the Britons are not playing it for laughs.

## Redgrave and Pinsent prepare to do battle

From RICHARD BURNELL in TASMANIA

BRITAIN'S team for the world championships reached Lake Berrington here on Thursday after a two-week training camp in Melbourne. Bruce Grainger, the new director of performance of the Amateur Rowing Association, yesterday described the time spent in Australia as "encouraging".

Martin Cross — bow in Britain's heavyweight coxless four, gold medal winner in the 1984 Olympic Games and a junior world championship silver medal winner 15 years ago — said conditions were fair and promising.

If Cross, the perennial enfant terrible, has nothing to complain about after two days, one would reasonably expect to have to delve deeply to find anything seriously awry.

The best news is that the flagship of the British fleet, Steven Redgrave and his new partner, Matthew Pinsent, said to be "on song" and ready for the fray. If Sunday's draw assists them on their course for a gold medal, the psychological effect on the team could be considerable.

## Rowing

Despite the fact that Tasmania is the most expensive venue, short of the Falkland Islands, at which to stage the world championships, there are entries this week from no fewer than 47 countries.

With 16 crews and scullers, the British team is outnumbered only by the hosts, Australia, who have 19, the Germans, who have 18, and the United States, with 17.

The only sad thought is the absence of Thomi Keller, the FISA president until his death last year. It would have been his final world championship in office.

One of his wishes will be honoured at the close of the championships on November 4, when there will be an award of the first Thomas Keller medal for an outstanding career in rowing.

## Trailing in East German wake

By KEN LAWRENCE

WHILE accountants are calculating how much can be made from Ben Johnson's comeback and Carl Lewis takes another side-swipe at Florence Griffith-Joyner, it is being demanded that East German achievements should be struck from the record books: Tony Ward issues a time-bomb into the arena of British sport.

He asks, in *Equinox* on Channel 4 (tomorrow, 7pm), if there is not something for us to learn from the East German methods before unification: "an era of sporting excellence the world may never see again."

Pushing to one side the subject of the steroids and other illegal substances East Germany was fed, Ward looks at the system of selection, training and medical back-up: "a system dedicated to sporting excellence that eliminated all but winners".

Ward, an author and spokesman for the British Amateur Athletic Board, makes out a convincing case in the programme subtitled *The Winning Streak*.

He insists that it is all too easy to put down East Germany's overwhelming successes to drugs. This, the East Germans claimed, was "a minor factor" and Ward believes it was never a substitute for their national selection and organised training.

The East Germans left little to chance, he reports: they made their own luck with a secret scientific training programme in which everything was specialised. From a very young age, would-be athletes were constantly monitored and the results analysed. *Equinox* cameras show the East German "babes" being screened at six years of age.

## SPORT ON TELEVISION

THE WEEK IN VIEW

gymnasts and from 10 for all others. Not one of a nation of 16 million people is missed. The next step is state boarding schools for those showing talent; then, for the chosen few, the State Centre for the Elite at Neubrandenburg, where there was medical back-up with doctors, nurses, physiologists, psychologists, physiotherapists and the best coaches.

East Germany had long since realised that to get the best out of men and women you needed good coaches and at the beginning of the 1950s the East German Sports Institute at Leipzig became the nerve centre of their national sports training programme. They produced perhaps the finest coaches in the world. They had 11,000 of them full-time, with 200 track and field coaches compared to Britain's paltry nine.

The offspring of the marriage between the best trainers and the cream of the athletes were gold medal winners by the score. How, Ward asks, could Birchfield Harriers compete against a club like Neubrandenburg, which boasted more gold medal winners than many national teams throughout the world?

Ward also looks at the respective fitness programmes. East Germans were scanned regularly, having lactate tests monthly to examine their oxygen levels. Britain is slowly following — it was discovered that the distance runner, Sally Ellis, ran too much on the inside of her right foot and that Derek Redmond had one leg shorter than the other — but the operative word is slowly.

Lactate tests are treated with deep suspicion principally because few people know how to interpret them here and anyone who does is considered an "eccentric"; yet the East Germans used them to ensure that their runners paced themselves perfectly to run their fastest at the finish, usually in first place.

Ward cites the long injury list that has plagued British athletes like Cram, Coe, Owen, Redmond and Whitbread. Overstressed training schedules, with athletes pushing themselves over their physical limits, did not often happen at Neubrandenburg. Swimmers, boxers and gymnasts, like athletes, were taken to their limits then, scientifically, not dangerously beyond them.

Ward is most concerned for British women: the top men, he says, are now full-time, which accounts for their success in the European championships in Split. But unlike their counterparts in the old East Germany, our women have not had unparalleled equal opportunities.

Liz McColgan apart, he argues that there is not one full-time woman athlete and that they will never be able to compete on such unequal terms.

"Our hit-and-miss approach to training no longer suffices," Ward concludes. "Athletes striving to push back the physical and mental limits need a network of sports knowledge."

One like the East Germans, perhaps, that became ideologically obsolete the day that the Wall came down?

of men and women you needed good coaches and at the beginning of the 1950s the East German Sports Institute at Leipzig became the nerve centre of their national sports training programme. They produced perhaps the finest coaches in the world. They had 11,000 of them full-time, with 200 track and field coaches compared to Britain's paltry nine.

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## Gooch may return for second match of Australian tour

GERALDTON, Western Australia — Graham Gooch, Australia's most exciting young prospect, Darren Lehmann, Smith, who also missed the second match of their Australian tour today against the Western Australia Country XI — just four days after badly gashing his right hand.

Gooch was yesterday cleared to play by the Perth doctor who treated his injury on Tuesday. The wound has healed so well that batting should present no problem, but a final decision will be taken shortly before the match.

"Graham has got a chance of playing," Laurie Brown, the England physiotherapist, said. "The deciding factor is whether or not he can catch a ball without pain. If he feels it at all, I would rather he didn't play this weekend."

The fact that Gooch is in the frame is remarkable. When he tried to catch a fierce return drive from Robin Smith on Tuesday morning, and turned away in agony, there were fears of a broken finger.

Even when that gloomy diagnosis proved incorrect, Brown still expected him to be sidelined for more than a week. Should caution hold sway today, the Essex batsman will not have too much longer to wait. England have another one-day contest in Perth on Tuesday, under lights against an Invitation XI which will include

## CRICKET

Allec Stewart and John Morris, whose unbroken half-centuries guided England to victory on Thursday, may be rested. But Mike Atherton is certain to play after following a practice match tonight on Tuesday with a second-ball duck against the President's side.

The young Lancashire batsman, who was such a success against New Zealand and India last summer, has yet to come to terms with the extra bounce in Australia and appears to be struggling with his timing in the nets.

## Younis hits back with a vengeance

From QAMAR AHMED in FAISALABAD

ALTHOUGH Chris Pringle, aged 22, wrecked Pakistan's formidable batting on the first day of the third and final Test here yesterday, New Zealand struggled in turn against the Surrey fast bowler, Waqar Younis.

Pringle returned seven for 52 in only his third Test match as Pakistan were dismissed for 102, their lowest against New Zealand, before Younis, the outstanding bowler of the series, took four for 26 in 12 minutes, leaving the batsmen in a shambles to reduce New Zealand to 40 for four.

Today is the rest day because of the provincial assembly elections and when play resumes tomorrow New Zealand will be looking to their captain, Martin Crowe, who made a battling 108 in the Second Test.

Pakistan are without Wasim Akram and Abdul Qadir, replaced by the all-rounder, Naved Aslam, an off-spinner. Taufeeq Ahmed, a batsman, is also expected to play. If Crowe can keep Younis at bay, New Zealand might be able to reach a valuable lead. But it will not be easy. "Younis is the best that I have faced, ever," Crowe said yesterday.

Later events should not detract from the achievements of young Pringle, who played first for his country in last season's one-day international at Headingley.

After Pakistan had been put in on a green pitch, Pringle summoned up unexpected control of length and line. He broke the opening partnership at 35 and picked up three of the first four wickets at a cost of 39 runs. Shoaib, Ramiz and Malik were all defeated by away swing and caught behind. Ejaz Ahmed, dropped in the slips by Rutherford.

ford before he had scored, was picked up at short leg off Watson.

From 74 for four at lunch, Pakistan lost their last six wickets in 55 minutes. Javed Miandad cut Pringle for successive fouls in the first over. The injury to Pringle after 25, which left him 14 runs short of 8,000 in Tests, the end was not long delayed, the wicketkeeper, Smith, taking his fifth catch to account for Taufeeq Ahmed.

New Zealand then suffered an immediate setback when Phil Horne, opening batsman, ducked into a short delivery from Younis and was hit through the grille of the helmet. He retired after medical attention and went for a precautionary x-ray.

PAKISTAN First Innings  
Rameez Raja c Smith b Pringle 20  
Shoaib Malik c Smith b Pringle 15  
Sami Younis c Smith b Pringle 4  
Javed Miandad c Smith b Pringle 25  
Ejaz Ahmed c Horne b Watson 5  
Taufeeq Ahmed c Ramiz b Watson 14  
Wasim Akram c Ramiz b Watson 10  
Abdul Qadir c Ramiz b Watson 0  
Taufeeq Ahmed c Ramiz b Watson 0  
Sami Younis c Ramiz b Watson 0  
Anis Ahmed not out 0  
Extras (b 3, nb 5) 8  
Total 102

NEW ZEALAND First Innings  
T J Pringle b Younis 25  
P A Horne not out 20  
M J Crowe c Younis b Younis 8  
M J Crowe not out 0  
K R Rutherford b Younis 1  
D N Patel b Younis 0  
D K Morrison b Younis 0  
Extras (b 1, nb 3) 4  
Total 40

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-37, 3-42, 4-52, 5-52, 6-52, 7-52, 8-102, 9-102, 10-102, 11-102, 12-102, 13-102, 14-102, 15-102, 16-102, 17-102, 18-102, 19-102, 20-102, 21-102, 22-102, 23-102, 24-102, 25-102, 26-102, 27-102, 28-102, 29-102, 30-102, 31-102, 32-102, 33-102, 34-102, 35-102, 36-102, 37-102, 38-102, 39-102, 40-102, 41-102, 42-102, 43-102, 44-102, 45-102, 46-102, 47-102, 48-102, 49-102, 50-102, 51-102, 52-102, 53-102, 54-102, 55-102, 56-102, 57-102, 58-102, 59-102, 60-102, 61-102, 62-102, 63-102, 64-102, 65-102, 66-102, 67-102, 68-102, 69-102, 70-102, 71-102, 72-102, 73-102, 74-102, 75-102, 76-102, 77-102, 78-102, 79-102, 80-102, 81-102, 82-102, 83-102, 84-102, 85-102, 86-102, 87-102, 88-102, 89-102, 90-102, 91-102, 92-102, 93-102, 94-102, 95-102, 96-102, 97-102, 98-102, 99-102, 100-102, 101-102, 102-102, 103-102, 104-102, 105-102, 106-102, 107-102, 108-102, 109-102, 110-102, 111-102, 112-102, 113-102, 114-102, 115-102, 116-102, 117-102, 118-102, 119-102, 120-102, 121-102, 122-102, 123-102, 124-102, 125-102, 126-102, 127-102, 128-102, 129-102, 130-102, 131-102, 132-102, 133-102, 134-102, 135-102, 136-102, 137-102, 138-102, 139-102, 140-102, 141-102, 142-102, 143-102, 144-102, 145-102, 146-102, 147-102, 148-102, 149-102, 150-102, 151-102, 152-102, 153-102, 154-102, 155-102, 156-102, 157-102, 158-102, 159-102, 160-102, 161-102, 162-102, 163-102, 164-102, 165-102, 166-102, 167-102, 168-102, 169-102, 170-102, 171-102, 172-102, 173-102, 174-102, 175-102, 176-102, 177-102, 178-102, 179-102, 180-102, 181-102, 182-102, 183-102, 184-102, 185-102, 186-102, 187-102, 188-102, 189-102, 190-102, 191-102, 192-102, 193-102, 194-102, 195-102, 196-102, 197-102, 198-102, 199-102, 200-102, 201-102, 202-102, 203-102, 204-102, 205-102, 206-102, 207-102, 208-102, 209-102, 210-102, 211-102, 212-102, 213-102, 214-102, 215-102, 216-102, 217-102, 218-102, 219-102, 220-102, 221-102, 222-102, 223-102, 224-102, 225-102, 226-102, 227-102, 228-102, 229-102, 230-102, 231-102, 232-102, 233-102, 234-102, 235-102, 236-102, 237-102, 238-102, 239-102, 240-102, 241-102, 242-102, 243-102, 244-102, 245-102, 246-102, 247-102, 248-102, 249-102, 250-102, 251-102, 252-102, 253-102, 254-102, 255-102, 256-102, 257-102, 258-102, 259-102, 260-102, 261-102, 262-102, 263-102, 264-102, 265-102, 266-102, 267-102, 268-102, 269-102, 270-102, 271-102, 272-102, 273-102, 274-102, 275-102, 276-102, 277-102, 278-102, 279-102, 280-102, 281-102, 282-102, 283-102, 284-102, 285-102, 286-102, 287-102, 288-102, 289-102, 290-102, 291-102, 292-102, 293-102, 294-102, 295-102, 296-102, 297-102, 298-102, 299-102, 300-102, 301-102, 302-102, 303-102, 304-102, 305-102, 306-102, 307-102, 308-102, 309-102, 310-102, 311-102, 312-102, 313-102, 314-102, 315-102, 316-102, 317-102, 318-102, 319-102, 320-102, 321-102, 322-102, 323-102, 324-102, 325-102, 326-102, 327-102, 328-102, 329-102, 330-102, 331-102, 332-102, 333-102, 334-102, 335-102, 336-102, 337-102, 338-102, 339-102, 340-102, 341-102, 342-102, 343-102, 344-102, 345-102, 346-102, 347-102, 348-102, 349-102, 350-102, 351-102, 352-102, 353-102, 354-102, 355-102, 356-102, 357-102, 358-102, 359-102, 360-102, 361-102, 362-102, 363-102, 364-102, 365-102, 366-102, 367-102, 368-102, 369-102, 370-102, 371-102, 372-102, 373-102, 374-102, 375-102, 376-102, 377-102, 378-102, 379-102, 380-102, 381-102, 382-102, 383-102, 384-102, 385-102,



















**Post Postmark.** Handicap at Doncaster yesterday to earn a place in the line-up for the William Hill November Handicap at the same course on November 10. Kieran Fallon, who rode the 14-8 second favourite, led 1½ furlongs out and drew away for a smooth victory. Winning first-season Muddelham trainer Alan Harrison said: "We took all the 25-1 offered about him for the November Handicap and he will take plenty of beating. He has 8st 5lb, including a 4lb sprang a surprise at 6-1 in the Doncaster Stakes when, patiently ridden by Walter Swinburn, he beat Butch by two lengths. Simon Crisford, representing winning trainer Michael Stoute, said: "Snow Owl had become a bit rusty in his races and we tried him in a vixor to sharpen him up a bit. I think that might be his last race of the season."

**Lord Derby's Triviality**, the events money favourite, finished fifth, beaten nearly four lengths.



Executive Editor David Brewerton

## BUSINESS

## New bid for Caird ruled out

By MARTIN BARROW

THE Takeover Panel has rejected an appeal by Severn Trent, the privatised water company, against a decision preventing it from launching a revised bid for Caird, the waste disposal company, for at least 12 months.

Severn Trent had asked the panel for dispensation from Rule 35 of the Takeover Code, which blocks companies from renewing hostile offers within one year after they have lapsed, arguing that there had been a material change in Caird's financial position that had not been disclosed to the stock market.

Severn Trent's £78 million was conditional upon Caird reaffirming a profit forecast of £8.5 million before tax for the 18 months to the end of December. After the bid was announced, Severn Trent's advisers acquired almost 30 per cent of Caird in the market.

Caird's defence document revealed that profits were unlikely to exceed £7.2 million. Caird shares subsequently fell from the offer price of 100p to below 50p.

The panel ruled that Severn Trent had acquired the shares before a new profit forecast had been issued, having declined Caird's offer to make available relevant financial information. "The very fact that Severn Trent included the profit forecast condition demonstrated its concern that it might not be met," the panel ruled.

## THE POUND

US dollar 1.9555 (+0.0010)

German mark 2.9606 (+0.0034)

Exchange index 94.8 (+0.2)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1598.4 (-19.1)

FT-SE 100 2063.1 (-25.6)

New York Dow Jones 2458.91 (-25.25)

Tokyo Nikkei Ave 25005.64 (-346.99)

Closing Prices ... Page 39

Major indices and major changes Page 37

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 14%

3-month Interbank 13 1/2%-13 3/4%

3-month eligible bills 13 1/2%-13 3/4%

US: Prime Rate 10%

Federal Funds 7 1/2%

3-month Treasury Bills 7 1/2%-7 3/4%

30-year bonds 9 3/4%-9 1/2%

## CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ \$1.9555

DM 2.9606

Swf 2.5011

FF 16.3636

Yen 160.36

ECU 1.9360

SDR 1.7556

Comex 372.70-373.10

## GOLD

London Fixing: AM 377.30 pm 377.70

close 372.75 373.25 (190.50-191.00)

New York: Comex 372.70-373.10

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec): \$35.40 (\$33.15)

Denotes latest trading price

## TOURIST RATES

Australia \$ 2.45

Austria S 2.45

Belgium F 2.45

Canada \$ 2.45

Denmark Kr 2.45

Finland Mk 2.45

France F 2.45

Germany DM 2.45

Greece Dr 2.45

Hong Kong \$ 2.45

Ireland Pt 2.45

Italy Lira 2.45

Japan Yen 2.45

Netherlands Gld 2.45

Norway Kr 2.45

Portugal Esc 2.45

Spain Ptas 2.45

Sweden Kr 2.45

Switzerland Fr 2.45

Turkey Lira 2.45

USA \$ 2.45

Yugoslavia Dnr 2.45

Rates for most currencies based on £1, unless stated otherwise. Different rates apply in some cases.

Retail Price Index: 129.3 (September)

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MONDAY TO FRIDAY - ENGLISH SPOKEN  
MAIL: INDUSTRIAS J.M.V.  
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Social highlight: Lady Brocklebank, the host

## Starring spectre at the charity feast

By JON ASHWORTH

ASIL Nadir was in no mood for dancing this week. The collapse of his family business and threat of personal bankruptcy are hardly ingredients for a successful party. But the party in question, the Harley Street Ball, went ahead on Thursday evening, to the relief of 280 socialites and members of the medical profession who had gathered at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

Although Mr Nadir did not attend, there was little doubt that he was the star of the show. Before his business dealings took a turn for the worse, Mr Nadir had pledged £5 million to help victims of cerebral palsy. The question on everyone's lips was, not surprisingly, whether he would make good his promise.

The task of ending the suspense fell

on William Grosvenor, a cousin of the Duke of Westminster, half brother of Lord Ebury, one-time grouse hunter, and treasurer of the Harley Street Ball. He is also public relations adviser to Polly Peck.

"Asil has telephoned me this evening," said Mr Grosvenor, as a murmur of expectation swept through the crowd. "He has said very emphatically that he has every intention of fulfilling his pledge."

A gasp was heard and the room filled with applause. This was fighting talk.

Even an apparent jibe by David Jacobs, the radio personality, could not dampen the crowd's enthusiasm. "Some of my best friends are bankrupts," he told the assembled guests, during a speech on behalf of the Spastics Society.

As the speeches gave way to

dancing and cabaret, Mr Nadir's name was still on everyone's lips. "He was due to conduct the auction, you know," said one disappointed guest. "I have it on reliable authority that he will put in an appearance later," whispered another.

The ball, which is the fourth to be held and has become the social highlight of the year for London's medical elite, was hosted by Lady (Anna) Brocklebank, a distinguished GP, who is known for her exotic taste in clothes.

Had Mr Nadir turned up for the £90-a-head show, he could have sampled the musical delights of the Temperance Seven or Bojolly's discotheque, or perhaps been sketched by Sarah Thompson, the artist. Jane the palmist could also have divined his future.

Despite the turn of events, the event

still managed to raise £30,000 for charity. But, had Mr Nadir taken charge of the auction, money might have flowed more easily.

"The way the City is at the moment, we did not raise as much as we hoped," said Caroline Cuffe, who helped organise the event.

Mr Nadir's generous pledge, however, may cause a frown or two at BZW Securities, which launched bankruptcy proceedings against Mr Nadir on Thursday, a matter of hours before the ball was due to begin.

The company claims it is owed £3.6 million for shares in Polly Peck, bought by Mr Nadir prior to their suspension.

"I don't think we can comment on this," said a BZW spokesman. "We have pressed him for repayment. He has not, in fact, paid and we took the course of action we did."

## Cypriots warn of assets block at Polly Peck

By MATTHEW BOND

THE Turkish-controlled authorities in northern Cyprus have given a warning that they will take action to prevent Polly Peck International assets and deposits being repatriated to Britain.

As the newly-appointed administrators began the task of stabilizing Polly Peck by meeting directors at the company's Berkeley Square headquarters, Nazif Borman, north Cyprus finance minister, gave a clear warning: "The Polly Peck subsidiaries in northern Cyprus will be protected. If any creditor bank wants to take away Polly Peck assets here, our government, the central bank, will intervene immediately."

Mr Borman appears to be concerned that the withdrawal of £140 million of Polly Peck deposits held in north Cyprus banks will spark the collapse of the unrecognised republic's banking system. "We have to protect their accounts and the rights of the deposit holders," he said. In addition to the cash deposits, Polly Peck also has huge citrus and packaging interests on the island.

Concern that the administrators, Michael Jordan and Richard Stone of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte and Christopher Morris of Touche Ross, may face serious problems in repatriating money

from northern Cyprus, increased the pressure on Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, to launch a Department of Trade and Industry investigation. So far the administrators have not met DTI officials.

In Zurich, where Polly Peck shares are still traded, the price fell to 14p. A spokesman for the bourse said it had no plans to suspend them.

The Cypriot finance minister's comments were clearly at odds with the softly-softly approach adopted by the administrators on Thursday.

Richard Stone, one of the three administrators appointed by the High Court, said: "We expect that we will get progressively more co-operation from the Turkish Cypriot authorities." Mr Stone described a 45-minute meeting with Kenan Atakol, the Turkish Cypriot foreign minister, as fruitful.

Yesterday the administrators were still pursuing this line. Responding to Mr Borman, Mr Jordan said: "It's a pity to take a position before we have had a chance to have a discussion. We hope to be able to persuade them to change their views."

"We certainly would not force them to do anything. We want to explain what our obligations are in this administration, but until we do that it's very difficult."

Before being appointed

joint administrator to Polly Peck, Mr Stone led a Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte team investigating the company's finances on behalf of the company's increasingly anxious banks. That investigation was blocked by a court injunction obtained by eight local citrus growers and three members of a transport union. An appeal against that injunction, which also affected access to Meyna, the Turkish subsidiary, is not due to be heard until next month.

The more hawkish line taken by Mr Borman is in complete accord with the extraordinary statement made this week by Asil Nadir, the Polly Peck chairman, before he left Istanbul to return to London for the board meeting that eventually led to his company going into administration.

Referring first to Polly Peck's Turkish assets Mr Nadir said: "These investments will be especially defended from foreign intervention. There is no question of their being affected financially by the events in London."

Mr Nadir then added: "For me personally, the operation in Turkey and the Turkish republic of North Cyprus and their healthy future comes before everything else. As it has been in the past, my endeavours in the future will be to continue the operation of the group's and my personal investments in Turkey and the Turkish republic of Cyprus."

● In a separate development, Warburg Soddie, the Geneva-based bank, confirmed that it has "accelerated" Polly Peck's six Swiss bond issues. Acceleration means the bonds become payable immediately and allows bond holders to rank alongside the company's other creditors. The bond holders' meeting scheduled for next Wednesday has been cancelled.

## Conference cancelled

JASON Davies, the former stockbroker at the centre of the Serious Fraud Office enquiry into South Audley Management, cancelled a press conference on Thursday, the day administrators were brought into Polly Peck, say reports from Geneva.

His lawyers in Geneva, where Mr Davies lives, said

this month that he would be facing the press at some time in October. The lawyers were unavailable for comment yesterday.

The Serious Fraud Office is thought to be keen to interview Mr Davies and Elizabeth Forsyth, a fellow director of South Audley, but their whereabouts is not known.

## Suspension at Capital extended

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Capital Leasing, the leasing company based in Dublin and quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, continue to be suspended pending the completion of bid talks, which are thought to be with Banque Nationale de Paris.

The International Stock Exchange has granted the company two extensions to its original temporary suspension, which only covered last Wednesday. The talks are expected to be completed on Tuesday, after the bank holiday in Ireland on Monday.

## Berisford Leasing sold for £5.8m

By MICHAEL TATE, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

BERISFORD International, the stricken food to financial services and property group, is selling its leasing business, Berisford Leasing, to Irish Intercontinental Bank for about £5.8 million. The move will also remove about £29 million of straight debt from the Berisford balance sheet.

Berisford Leasing, which provides finance for various equipment to industrial and commercial concerns, has a loan book of about £140 million, although £111 million of this has been block discounted with a number of banks.

As part of the arrangements Berisford International will lend £10 million to the leasing company on completion to

cover potential under-provisioning.

The deal does not include Berisford Leasing's subsidiaries comprising contract hire, consumer finance and trailer rental. Discussions on the disposal of these activities are said to be reasonably advanced.

The financial services operations, all for sale, are thought to have a value of between £80 million and £90 million. It is still hoped that most will have gone by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, the programme for the disposal of British Sugar is said to be proceeding on course, with initial offers from prospective purchasers expected soon.

## Two jailed for £1.5m frauds

TWO men who defrauded building societies out of almost £1.5 million in mortgage frauds were jailed at Southwark Crown Court yesterday.

Nasrullah Khan of Sedley Taylor Road, Cambridge, was sentenced to five years and Sarjit Singh Sagoo of Eatonville Road, London SW17, to two years.

They had been convicted of conspiring with a solicitor, David Wilner, and others to procure by deception the execution of valuable securities, namely cheques and transfers, in connection with mortgage advances. They pleaded not guilty.

Wilner had previously pleaded guilty to the charge and two other similar conspiracies and was sentenced to a total of two years imprisonment.

Sagoo was also convicted of the execution of a valuable security by deception in April 1989, involving a Woolwich cheque for a £120,000 mortgage advance, and in March 1989 of obtaining a Halifax cheque for a £64,000 mortgage advance.

## Delyn designs help lift interim profits

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

DELIN Packaging, the Welsh manufacturer of plastic packaging for food, raised pre-tax profits from £305,000 to £315,000 in the six months to August 8. Sales rose from £5.09 million to £6.5 million. Earnings were static at 2.42p a share and the interim dividend is unchanged at 0.45p.

Paul Norman, the chairman, said the company had strengthened its design side. This had led to the launch of new products for packaging

salads, drinks, and fresh foods for supermarkets, and had widened the customer base.

He added: "While this is a period of uncertainty, we are confident that our commitment to product quality and added-value services will ensure we maintain our leading position. Ninety per cent of our sales are to the food and drink industries... areas offering greatest growth opportunities." The shares rose 1p to 56p.



Package deal: Paul Norman with a Delyn wine case

## M Hanover hints at cut in dividend

MANUFACTURERS Hanover Corporation has hinted at a cut in its dividend to save money amid the growing gloom in the American banking industry.

In a meeting with bank analysts, Peter Tobin, chief financial officer, said the bank was addressing its dividend policy, which at about \$3.28 a share amounts to a dividend yield of 16.4 per cent.

## Eagle Star move

Eagle Star Insurance, the BAT Industries subsidiary, is considering selling Eagle Star France, its loss-making French general insurance company, but intends to retain a management and development office in Paris to further its European business. Lehman Brothers International is to advise on the possible sale.

## News Corp post

The News Corporation, the international media group that owns The Times, has appointed David Devoe, who became chief financial officer in September, to the main board. Mr Devoe joined News Corp in 1983 as group internal auditor.

## Deal for independent miners in danger

By ROSS TIEMAN

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

CLAIMS for damages over past payments could prove a stumbling block in talks aimed at achieving a better deal for independent coal miners.

The South Wales Small Mines Association (SWSMA) is believed to be seeking up to £50 million in damages from National Power, the generating company set for privatisation next year, over past discriminatory pricing.

The figure is a sharp reduction from the £130 million originally asked for by SWSMA. But it is more firmly based, being linked to improved prices tabled by National Power during talks.

"Negotiations are at a delicate

stage," Rhys Jefferys, chairman of SWSMA, said.

Separate, but simultaneous talks are taking place with the National Association of Licensed Opencast Operators (Naloo) and the Federation of Small Mines of Great Britain.

Across the table at the department of energy-sponsored discussions sit the main coal buyers; National Power and PowerGen, and British Coal.

The independent miners, who produce 2 million to 3 million tonnes a year, are enraged by the three-year contract signed this year between British Coal and the generating companies to underpin the power privatisation programme.

It sets a price averaging £43 tonne for British Coal's output, while independent miners receive just £30

atonne. Two weeks ago the generators offered the independents £37 per tonne and gave them until yesterday to accept. That deadline has been extended until November 9 after revisions to the terms of the deals offered.

While the Welsh independents are balking over damages, the opencast miners' group is also at odds with British Coal over the £7 a tonne licence fee that it is obliged to pay the state-owned mining company.

Naloo appears determined to win a cut in the licence fee to a level which it believes allows it to compete on price with coal mines overseas.

Separate talks are also under way between Scottish Power and Scottish independent miners, who supply a significant proportion of its needs. No

deal has yet been tabled by the Scottish generating company.

The independent coal producers have complained to the European Commission about discriminatory pricing in the United Kingdom and the way the industry is regulated.

They believe they have a strong case. Young Group, the Durham opencast mining group, has included a clause in its latest three-year contract with British Coal that will enable it to obtain new terms if the commission rules in the independents' favour.

Because the generators have a three-year contract for British Coal to supply most of their needs, and the generators are anxious to take advantage of low-cost imports, the independent miners are in danger of being squeezed out of the British market.

## Notice to existing borrowers.

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Handwritten text in Arabic script: "هذا من المال"



## Nomura in \$1bn talks with RTC

From JOHN DUNNE  
IN NEW YORK

NOMURA Securities is negotiating to buy \$1 billion in commercial lines from Resolution Trust Corporation, the main American savings and loan regulator.

The move is the first main indication of renewed Japanese interest in participating in the American savings and loan clean-up and is a boost to the administration.

In recent months, Japanese interest in American bonds has waned. This year, foreign interest in American markets has dropped with present indications showing a net withdrawal of more than \$20 billion in funds from American capital and equity markets. Last year there was a net inflow of foreign funds of \$80 billion.

American investors have also been investing more offshore as world investors look to higher interest rates in Japan and West Germany with less interest in the struggling American economy.

Spokesmen for both Nomura and RTC declined comment on the talks.

RTC has worked previously with Japanese investors with Greenwich Capital Market, a subsidiary of Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan.

Nomura, which has not shown interest in thrift-related assets previously, in May repackaged \$1 billion in loans from American banks including Citicorp and Chase Manhattan, selling them through a Dutch subsidiary to Japanese, American and British institutions.

Conrad loss  
Conrad Continental, the leather clothing and fashion accessories company, has axed its interim dividend. Last time it paid 1p. The group dived to a pre-tax loss of \$469,000 in the six months to end-June, compared with profits of \$303,000. Turnover fell from \$5.85 million to \$4.36 million. There was a 3.55p loss per share, against earnings of 1.49p.

## Brent Walker value falls under £10m at low point

By MICHAEL TATE  
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE value of Brent Walker, the leisure group, slumped to less than £10 million at one point yesterday, amid speculation about its financial status.

Shares in Brent Walker, whose interests range from the Brighton Marina to the William Hill betting chain, collapsed from an overnight 72p to 18.5p, recovering to 45p. At one stage this year they traded at 376p, valuing the business at £188 million.

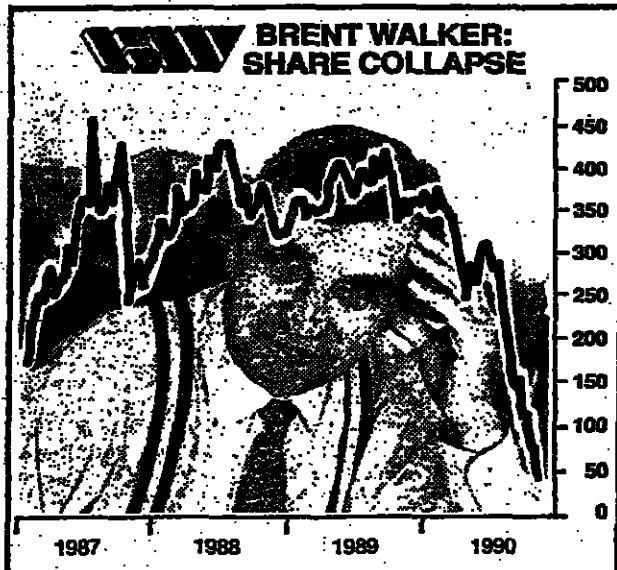
The rumours were just some of many that were fanned back into life after the Polly Peck International collapse and which are now becoming a serious problem for the International Stock Exchange authorities.

As P&O confirmed it had sought a stock exchange enquiry, reports were surfacing that the Serious Fraud Office was seeking to interview Michael Ashcroft, chairman of ADT. This was denied by the company, which also wants share dealings investigated. Companies with serious debt problems are a prime target for such rumour-mongers, and Brent Walker fits the bill. On Thursday evening it was spotlighted by ITV's *The City Programme* as a company under pressure.

Brent Walker's debt problems are well documented. The interim statement published last month showed net debt at £1.15 billion and a gearing ratio that would be 112 per cent if not for the novel off-balance sheet financing of the William Hill acquisition.

It would rise to 130 per cent if the £160 million claim against Grand Metropolitan in connection with the William Hill deal is not upheld. An independent arbitrator is to be appointed while Grand-Met's writ in connection with an unpaid £50 million has yet to come before a judge.

Worries have increased with Brent Walker's inability to place its £103 million convertible issue. Its advisers insist that details of the issue will be sent to shareholders on Monday, the last possible date. The stock has been



firmly placed but it is still not clear with whom. What does seem almost certain is that it will not find many takers among the institutions at the clawback stage.

The share price slump was said to have been sparked by one institution which, already suffering heavy losses on its Polly Peck holdings, approached Smith New Court, Brent Walker's broker, to sell a large line of stock, "at any price".

A bout of what was described as panic selling followed, which was only

stopped after Smith New Court moved into the market to support the price.

The telephone lines between the stock exchange and Smith New Court hummed, but the broker rejected the suggestion that the shares should be suspended.

Smith New Court insisted that no new information was about to be published, and that it was not aware of any event that might be causing a false market.

Its assurances satisfied the stock exchange, although a routine investigation into yes-

terday's share dealings will be undertaken.

Meanwhile, ADT rejected suggestions, contained in a House of Commons question tabled by Rhodri Morgan, Cardiff West MP, for Monday, that its chairman was the subject of an enquiry.

"Neither ADT, its chairman, nor any of its directors have had any contact with or approach from the Serious Fraud Office," according to the ADT statement.

Indicating that it had crossed swords with Mr Morgan before, ADT said it "will not be detracted by the abuse of parliamentary privilege in attempting to smear ADT or its chairman".

The statement added that trading in ADT's core divisions was "up to expectations" and that the balance sheet "remains one of the strongest of any service company".

The company said it was asking the stock exchange to investigate dealings in ADT shares in the time just before adverse market speculation. ADT shares dipped 5p to 103p.

The company announced it had taken advantage of the slide in the share price to buy 4.5 million of its own shares. "It will continue to use market opportunities in circumstances that ADT sees as advantageous to its shareholders," it said.

## P&O requests investigation

PENINSULAR & Oriental Steam Navigation, hit by further selling of its shares in the London market, confirmed that it had asked the International Stock Exchange to investigate its share price movements.

The announcement can be read as a warning shot across the bows of a possible ring of "short sellers", or professional bear raiders, who have been driving down the price by encouraging speculation about the company.

P&O, led by Sir Jeffrey Sterling, has asked the stock

exchange to seek the source of the talk, which it said was "totally untrue and without foundation". One of the rumours P&O had to deny was that the Serious Fraud Office had raided the company.

Although the stock exchange does not comment on its investigations, it is understood that the request is being taken seriously and that dealings in the shares are being subject to close scrutiny.

In the market, the shares had another volatile day, closing 4p higher at 489p, after falling 24p on Thursday.



Sterling: seeking source

## Japanese trade barriers under fire

From REUTER IN TOKYO

A SENIOR European Community official has denounced Japanese trade barriers, saying they cost European producers \$3 billion a year.

Lack of a Japanese action to remove the barriers could hurt Japan's car exports to the EC, said Horst Krenzler, director-general of external relations and trade policy, after two days of talks with Japanese officials on trade, economic problems and science and technology.

Mr Krenzler said the EC's chronic trade deficit with Japan was intolerable and the Japanese response at the talks had been disappointing. No concrete steps had been taken to remove Japanese obstacles to imports, he said.

EC figures show Japan posting a trade surplus with the EC in the first nine months of this year of \$13.1 billion, against a surplus of \$19.8 billion in 1989.

The EC demands that Japan abolish quantitative restrictions and cut import tariffs in three sectors: processed food, fish products and leather.

The restrictions are costing EC producers \$3 billion a year in lost exports, Mr Krenzler said. "We pleaded strongly that Japan push forward with more market opening. Only this would create a favourable climate to solve other problems such as auto imports into the EC after the single market in 1992," he said.

The question of EC imports of Japanese cars is the thorniest issue between the two sides, so sensitive that neither Mr Krenzler nor Japanese officials would give details of informal negotiations on the subject.

The EC is divided on the issue, with France, Italy and Spain demanding restrictions on imports after 1992. Germany and Britain advocate a more liberal policy.

Sources at Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Japan argued that trade issues should be dealt with at multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Asset value slides by 10% at RIT Capital

RIT Capital Partners, the investment trust that was spun out of J Rothschild Holdings two years ago, reports a 10.6 per cent fall in its fully diluted net asset value to 117.1p a share during the six months to September 30.

However, it does not include a £21 million, or 8.5p a share, gain on the recent gold-for-timber asset exchange involving Cavenham Forest Industries in which RITCP had an option to buy 15 per cent. This has now been exchanged for a right to buy 7 per cent of Newmont Mining. RITCP also reports improved half-year pre-tax profits of £8.3 million (£5.5 million), though the difference is mainly accounted for by dealing profits of £2.1 million, against a loss of £37,000 last year.

### Conroy issue raises Ir£3.8m

CONROY Petroleum and Natural Resources, the Dublin mining company, has raised Ir£3.8 million (£3.45 million) through a share placing to help fund the development of the Galmoy zinc mine in County Kerry. The new shares were placed in London and Dublin at 90p sterling each. The existing USM-quoted shares traded 4p lower at 92p.

### CPU down as interest rises

PROFITS at CPU Computers, the computer peripherals distributor, fell in the six months to end-June after interest costs surged to £736,000 (£160,000). Pre-tax profits slipped to £484,000 (£535,000), although turnover rose to £38 million (£28.5 million). Earnings per share fell to 1.32p (1.91p). Again, there is no interim dividend.

### Cadbury sweet buy

CADBURY Schweppes, the confectionery to soft drinks group, is buying Griffin's confectionery business from Britannia Brands NZ, a New Zealand foods group, and selling its Hudson biscuit operations to Britannia. In addition to the swap, Cadbury Schweppes will buy Britannia a net consideration of NZ\$2 million (£625,000).

Griffin's confectionery is the brand leader in New Zealand with 52 per cent of the market in packaged sugar confectionery. Estimated sales were NZ\$38 million last year.

### Craig & Rose edges ahead

CRAIG & Rose, the Edinburgh manufacturer of paint and varnish and supplier of wallcoverings, lifted pre-tax profits from £40,000 to £42,000 in the six months to end-June, on turnover up from £2.69 million to £2.8 million. Earnings edged ahead from 7.45p to 7.51p a share. The company has maintained the interim dividend at 2p.

### German steel deal for Itoh

CITOH, the Japanese trading house, has become the first Japanese company to buy into Europe's protected steel market, securing a 5.1 per cent stake in Klockner-Werke, the German steel company, for DM100 million. The companies will set up a sheet steel production base in Bremen, North Germany, at an annual capacity of 400,000 tonnes.

### ENI's stake rejected

THE uncertainty over Enimont, the Italian joint-venture chemical company, in which Montedison and the state-owned ENI group have 40 per cent each, continued after Montedison said it would not buy ENI's 40 per cent stake.

Raul Gardini, chairman of Montedison, said he could not accept the conditions offered by ENI because his freedom to manage the company would be severely constrained. Shares in Montedison closed 3.3 per cent down at 1,286 lira, while Enimont fell 6.3 per cent to 1,171 in Milan.

## Hundred jobs go at Plaxton



Fighting weak demand with a new range of buses for Europe: David Matthews, the chairman of Plaxton

PLAXTON group, Britain's biggest luxury coach-builder, is cutting 100 jobs at its Scarborough works in North Yorkshire (Ross, Tieman writes).

The job losses are the latest in a growing shake-out in the bus and coach-building industry in response to plummeting demand.

Walker Alexander, a bus-builder in Falkirk, Scotland, has just shed 96 of its 700 workers and talks are under way with unions at Volvo Leyland, in Leyland, Lancashire, on how to respond to deepening losses.

Plaxton, which with 1,000 employees was Scarborough's biggest employer, declared 50 redundancies this summer.

Fifty more jobs were only preserved because workers agreed to job-sharing.

David Matthews, the chairman of Plaxton group, said: "High interest rates have resulted in a reduction in demand. Coaches are capital goods and the recession in the capital goods business is serious."

Last year, Plaxton produced 700 coaches, selling for £100,000 to £140,000, and accounted for half of all British luxury coach sales.

This year Mr Matthews says he expects to sell "400-500". Stocks of completed but unsold vehicles at the Scarborough factory have doubled from six weeks' production to three months' output. Never-

theless, Mr Matthews insists that Plaxton, a diversified group which includes Henlys, the car distributor, among its assets, still has a strong balance sheet.

To combat the prolonged weakness in demand for coaches and passenger service vehicles, Plaxton had developed a range of service buses with 40-70 seats, including double-deckers, aimed at European markets. The new range will be launched next year. Mr Matthews is trying to hold on to skilled workers until then.

Plaxton has also given vociferous support to the Bus and Coach Council, the bus operators' group, in its campaign to win recognition for

the bus as the ideal solution for problems of urban congestion.

According to experts, the average British double-decker is 14 years old and London's Routemasters are about to celebrate their 30th birthday. A BCC spokesman blamed "pitiful" rates of return for underinvestment in modern vehicles.

Four-day working will start next week for assembly workers who produce electrical goods at three Ashley Rock factories in Ulverston, Cleator Moor and Barrow, Cumbria. The company employs 800 people. Two weeks ago, it announced 66 job losses because of a 20 per cent fall in demand.

## Eurotunnel loan deal signed

THE last of more than 200 bankers have signed an additional £1.8 billion loan agreement with Eurotunnel. The signing opens the way for a £530 million rights issue, which the Anglo-French group is anxious to launch as soon as possible to beat the government's electricity privatisation issue next month.

The pathfinder prospectus for the electricity distribution companies is due to be published next Friday.

Eurotunnel shares, which have climbed from 385p to 485p this month, eased to 475p.

### GR decline

GR Holdings, the sheepskin to health club group, made pre-tax profits of £1.62 million for the year to end-June, down from £7.26 million. Last year's bumper profit was due to a £5.6 million one-off contribution from property trading. Earnings per share were 6p (34p). The final dividend is unchanged at 1.75p but a 30p special dividend was paid last year reflecting the extraordinary profit. Dividends for the full year are 2.15p (32.15p). The shares were unchanged at 120p.

### Clayton down

Shares in Clayton, Son & Co (Holdings), which makes bulk storage tanks, lost 12p to 128p after a decline in pre-tax profits from £115,000 to £17,900 for the six months to end-June. After taxation of £22,400 (£18,500), there is a loss of 0.18p per share (3.81p profit). The interim dividend is increased to 2.5p (2.2p).

### Usborne slides

Usborne, the agricultural to property group that was formerly Feeder Agricultural Industries, reports a slide in pre-tax profits from £1.26 million to £739,000 in the six months to end-June. Earnings per share slip from 1.31p to 0.76p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 0.5p.

### Aberfoyle falls

Pre-tax profits at Aberfoyle Holdings, the Zimbabwean manufacturer, farmer and investor, fell from £1.54 million to £574,000 in the six months to end-June. Earnings per share dived from 1.35p to 0.29p. Again, there is no interim dividend.

### FR director quits

Allan Hendry has resigned as an executive director of FR Group, the aviation and electronic products group. His resignation follows the appointment of Gordon Page as deputy chief executive and as director responsible for British manufacturing.

## Duopoly review likely to benefit telepoint system

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TELEPOINT, the one-way radio telephone system, could benefit from the government's duopoly review, expected to start in a few days.

Industry experts believe the trade and industry department may consider licensing telepoint as a two-way service on which subscribers can receive and make calls. The duopoly review is likely to focus on how to increase competition in residential telephone services.

Telepoint base stations at the end of residential roads and capable of switching a customer on to a land network

could be one way of increasing choice, say experts.

John Dodds of BYPS, owned by Barclays Bank, Shell and Phillips and one of the four telepoint companies, said handsets were capable of handling two-way calling and delivering - what is called Community Telepoint.

Christine Sidebottom, the marketing director at Phonepoint, which is majority-owned by British Telecom, said the company believed that being licensed for two-way services was a "question of when, not if".

The licensing of two-way

telepoint would also assist the technology in becoming more of a mass market system, as was originally envisaged when the service was launched last year.

Such a move would also spur companies behind such services to make base stations more widely available in the high street and in public places.

So far only 5,000 to 15,000 people are subscribers to the four consortia running networks and growth has been slow, despite predictions by the industry of 3.5 million customers by 1995.

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## Turning over new leaf with instant tea

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BILL Brodie is about to launch perhaps the most revolutionary attack on entrenched British taste since Sir Francis Drake returned from Latin America with a sack of potatoes.

On December 1, he will mount a £4 million campaign to persuade the nation to buy instant tea.

There have been previous attempts to tamper with the national beverage, in the interest of making money, but Mr Brodie's Typhoo QT is different. It is, he claims, the first "complete" instant tea, containing dried milk as well as dried tea.

Mr Brodie, managing director of Premier Beverage Products, part of Hillsdown Holdings, the food-to-furniture group, is enthusiastic about the tea. Premier has



spent £6 million on equipment in its factory at Knighton, Shropshire, to produce it.

He said: "I use it myself, particularly in the morning when I am in a bit of a hurry."

He is not alone. The product is being launched after a successful 18-month test market in the Central Television area in the Midlands. But it

may not be easy. Tony Camp, marketing manager at Premier, admitted: "There was a wall of suspicion at the prospect of an instant tea, but there was an overwhelming demand for such a product."

Typhoo QT has already been re-formulated once in response to doubts expressed at test tastings. Premier said that in the most recent survey of "nearly 1,000 tea-bag-using housewives" in areas of soft, medium and hard water, 90 per cent rated the product "good/very good". About 76 per cent said they would buy it again.

Premier has more than consumer prejudice to overcome. Unilever, rated number one in Britain's £620 million annual tea market by Premier, has PG Instant already on sale. Unlike Typhoo QT, it requires the addition of milk.

Mr Brodie said: "We are not trying to take away from the

traditional tea market." Premier, with brands such as Fresh Brew, Ridgeways and Meltons, in addition to Typhoo, already claims to provide 23 per cent of the nation's cups.

Instant tea is expected to expand tea consumption, but substitution is quite possible. When tea bags were introduced in the Sixties, sceptics thought they would never catch on. Today, they account for 80 per cent of tea purchases.

Other instant hot drinks have scored some notable successes in recent years. Instant chocolate drinks and soups are now big sellers.

But when well-established tastes are at stake, the odds are by no means clear. As Mr Brodie himself pointed out, the British coffee market started as an instant market, and is now "going backwards" into ground coffee.



## LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Coke				Pain				Sulfur				Fats			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Am Lysine	320	36	30	33	28	33	28	33	140	18	20	27	2	7	10	1
(142)	320	36	30	33	28	33	28	33	(154)	180	18	20	27	2	7	10
ASDA	110	13	10	12	10	12	10	12	30	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
(121)	110	13	10	12	10	12	10	12	Poly Prop	280	3	3	3	3	3	3
Bess	100	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	Suspended	280	3	3	3	3	3	3
(1035)	1050	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	Practical	200	7	18	10	9	14	2
Berk	7100	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	(178)	240	14	10	20	24	28	1
(723)	330	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	Steel	140	26	30	40	3	6	11
Bk Ag	140	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	(183)	180	11	20	20	20	20	20
(143)	140	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	WZ	480	5	5	5	5	5	5
Bf	330	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	Scot & Mow	360	3	19	27	7	2	2
(343)	330	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	(350)	360	3	19	27	7	2	2
Bt	1100	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	Tech	220	13	25	30	37	6	6
(1121)	1100	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	(220)	220	13	25	30	37	6	6
C & W	130	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	Thames Wt.	210	26	26	26	26	26	26
(407)	130	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	(237)	210	26	26	26	26	26	26
Chem Dept	480	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	Wt Package	220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(449)	480	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	(2227)	220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
(312)	350	36	36	36	36	36	36	36		220	70	150	50	35	80	10
Chl	350	36														

still believes that the London market is in a bear phase and might move down to 1,800 in the short to medium term. He would begin to think differently only if the FT-SE 100 went through 2,200.

For the truly technically minded who detect a "reverse head and shoulders" pattern in the recent behaviour of both the FTA All-Share and the FT-SE 100 indexes he sees only "a David and Goliath situation—a two-month minor reversal taking on a 19-month major top area". Although Goliath lost the last time out Mr Lake believes he will win: the market is going down. Both indexes have now broken through their main uptrends from 1985.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

27.45 Sp 110.60	Jan	91.0	\$2.5	GB (%)	-6.02	+10.18	+0.76
" Vol 7	Feb <td>92.0 <th>\$2.5</th> <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-18.5</th> <th>-29.7</th> <th></th> </td>	92.0 <th>\$2.5</th> <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-18.5</th> <th>-29.7</th> <th></th>	\$2.5	Eng/Wal (%)	-18.5	-29.7	
17.50 Mr 120.70	Live Cable Control	Jan <td>91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>68.39</th> <th>133.47</th> <th>100.49</th> </td>	91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>68.39</th> <th>133.47</th> <th>100.49</th>	Eng/Wal (%)	68.39	133.47	100.49
08.28 Nv 111.25	Clor	Jan <td>91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-6.02</th> <th>+7.77</th> <th>+0.35</th> </td>	91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-6.02</th> <th>+7.77</th> <th>+0.35</th>	Eng/Wal (%)	-6.02	+7.77	+0.35
AMT Futures	Nov	unq		Scotland (%)	n/a	-4.1 <td>28.6</td>	28.6
	Jan	unq		Scotland (%)	n/a	108.4	132.4
	Vol	unq		Scotland (%)	n/a	+4.5	18.58
	Vol/Pls1 Cable-0						

\* Estimated direct exchange rates

**MY BILLS**

27.45 Sp 110.60	Jan	91.0	\$2.5	GB (%)	-6.02	+10.18	+0.76
" Vol 7	Feb <td>92.0 <th>\$2.5</th> <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-18.5</th> <th>-29.7</th> <th></th> </td>	92.0 <th>\$2.5</th> <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-18.5</th> <th>-29.7</th> <th></th>	\$2.5	Eng/Wal (%)	-18.5	-29.7	
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08.28 Nv 111.25	Clor	Jan <td>91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-6.02</th> <th>+7.77</th> <th>+0.35</th> </td>	91.0 <th>Eng/Wal (%)</th> <th>-6.02</th> <th>+7.77</th> <th>+0.35</th>	Eng/Wal (%)	-6.02	+7.77	+0.35
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	Jan	unq		Scotland (%)	n/a	108.4	132.4
	Vol	unq		Scotland (%)	n/a	+4.5	18.58
	Vol/Pls1 Cable-0						

\* Estimated direct exchange rates

هاتفه (من الأصل)

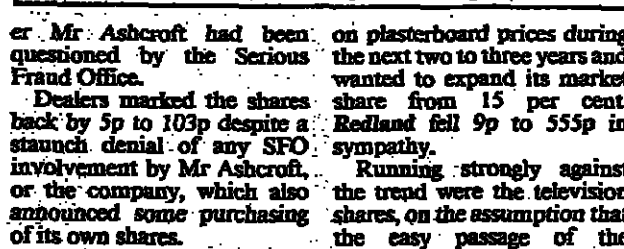


## Index slides by 25 points to below pre-ERM level

FT-AirShare	997.17	(-11.95)	Bentley	348 1/2	(-11p)
FT-500*	1102.12	(-11.94)	Barclays	348 1/2	(-11p)
FT-Gold Mines	170.6	(-2.1)	Lloyds	255 1/2	(-14p)
FT-Fixed Interest	88.78	(+0.03)	Standard Chartered	237 1/2	(-13p)
FT-Govt Secs	79.98	(-0.08)	Seab	254	(-10p)
Barrick	19222		Transatlantic House	170 1/2	(-12p)
SEAQ Volume	367.3m		Brent Walker	44 1/2	(-27p)
USM (Datastream)	105.25	(-0.35)	Euro Disney	95.00	(-23p)

\*Denotes latest trading price

Closing prices



pany to a collection of corporate scalps in apparent concerted action on Thursday.

Leading Ls New	3
Levercrest	100
MMI	22
M & W Pic	75

## INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max Investment £	Notice	Contact
<b>BANKS</b>						
<b>Ordinary Dep A/c:</b>						
Typical	3.50	3.60	2.90	none/none	7 day	---
<b>Fixed Term Deposits:</b>						
Barclays	10.08	10.06	8.48	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-628 1567
	10.31	10.31	8.52	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-628 1567
Lloyds	9.31	9.31	7.72	2,500-100 max	1 mth	Local Branch
	9.45	9.45	7.86	2,500-100 max	3 mth	Local Branch
Midland	9.65	9.65	7.72	10,000-50 max	1 mth	071-260 2905
"	9.56	9.56	7.75	10,000-50 max	3 mth	071-260 2905
NorthWest	9.75	9.75	7.80	10,000-24,000	1 mth	071-728 1000
"	9.75	9.75	7.80	10,000-24,000	3 mth	071-728 1000
<b>HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS</b>						
<b>Bank of Scotland</b>						
Bank of Scotland MAC	9.47	9.90	7.92	2,500i	none	031-442 7777
Barclays						
Prime a/c	9.50	9.84	7.87	2,500i	none	0604 252891
Co-operative						
Ultra	8.00	6.20	4.98	2,500i	none	071 626 0543
Citibank	9.25	9.25	7.48	1,000i	none	851 966 2076
Midland	9.50	9.50	4.50	500i	none	071-555 5554
NorthWest	9.50	9.84	7.87	2,000i	none	
Special Reserve	8.00	8.24	6.59	500i	none	071-374 3374
Royal Bank of Scotland						
Prime Prime A/c	8.95	9.26	7.41	2,500	none	031-556 8556
TSB (England & Wales)						
	8.25	8.25	6.60	2,000i	none	071-600 6000
<b>BUILDING SOCIETIES</b>						
<b>Ordinary Share</b>						
Arcady	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 mth	none	---
<b>Best buy - largest socs:</b>						
Northcliffe and Anglo	10.00	10.00	8.00	1 mth	none	---
National & Prov	10.50	10.50	8.40	500 mth	none	---
Northcliffe & Gil	12.25	12.25	9.80	2,500 mth	none	---
Birmingham Bldg	12.50	12.50	10.00	10,000 mth	90 day	---
Bristol & West	13.00	13.00	10.39	25,000 mth	1 year	---
<b>Best buy - all socs:</b>						
Northcliffe & Gil	12.25	12.25	9.80	2,500 mth	none	---
Natl. Counties	12.45	12.45	9.96	50,000 mth	30 day	---
St Paulines	12.25	12.25	9.75	10,000 mth	60 day	---
	12.75	12.75	10.29	40,000 mth	90 day	---

Account	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 mn	Rates rise
Cash	6.50	6.50	5.52	500 mn	with margin
Natwide					
Anglia Plan	6.00	6.00	4.80	1 mn	balances

*Controlled by Chase de Wille International - call 071 424 5766 for further details*

### NATIONAL SAVINGS

Ordinary Ayle*	5.00	3.75	3.00	5-10,000	8 day	041-849-4555
Income Plus*	12.75	8.56	7.55	5-25,000	1 mn	041-849-4555
Income Bond	13.00	10.13	8.10	2,000-25,000	3 mn	0253 96151
Deposit Bond□	13.50	10.13	8.10	3 mn	041-849-4555	
Capital Bond	9.50	8.50	7.50	8 day	091 3685	
Yearly Plan†	9.50	10.13	9.10	20-200,000	14 day	001-386-9400
Extortion Rate†	5.01	5.01	5.01			
Capital Bond	13.00	9.75	7.80	100-100,000	5 yrs	041-849-4555

### GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

Hambro Guardian	10.80	10.80	8.18	5,000 mn	1 yrs	Figures from
Financial Assur	10.30	10.30	8.75	5,000 mn	2 yrs	Chase de
Financial Assur	10.10	10.10	8.50	5,000 mn	3 yrs	Wille Int'l
Canada Life	10.20	10.20	8.67	25,000 mn	4 yrs	071 424 5766
Financial Assur	10.35	10.35	8.60	5,000 mn	5 yrs	for details

### Holiday rates

RPI (Sept. 89-90)	+10.5%	Spanish Pesetas:	180.50
Bank Rate Rate	14.0%	French Francs:	9.56
Personal Loan	24.9%	Greek Dracmas:	292.00
Credit Card	15.5-31%	Italian Lira:	2165.00

\*2.5% for balances below £200, first £70 of interest free, instant access for withdrawals of £1200 or less  
 †Additional holidays up to £10,000 for overseas customers; proceeds of savings matured certificates 17% tax exempt, always paid gross higher rates for larger sums □ no longer on sale

### Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

FIRST TIME BUYERS				
Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
<b>BUILDING SOCIETIES</b>				
Halifax 0422 333333	13.80	to £75K	100	On 1yr 0.7% ds. on endow pension
Shuton 0763 700500	12.90	over £30K	95	After 1% discount for 12 months.
Yorkshire 0274 734822	13.40	to 250K	95	After 2% discount for 6 months.
<b>BANKS</b>				
Abbey National 0906 681122	12.70	over £50K	100	1.25% wd end 91 endw enc.blogs ms.reqd.
<b>OTHER (INSURANCE COMPANY)</b>				
First Mtg.Soc. 071.485.5956	12.75	over 75K	95	Rate capped until 31 12 91

Figures supplied by Buy a Guise Ltd. Telephone 0753 880482

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**The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading**



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38	Target Gold & Gem	35.61	38.50	88.1	15	69.1	17
39	Thomson Golden Ops	26.22	27.85	82.8	23	58.2	23

76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42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36	S&P Financial Securities	93.88	99.87	101.9	14	71.6	8
21	S&P Stocks	134.2	142.7	100.8	15	72.1	7
53	S&P Alliance Worldwide Fin	29.88	32.13	98.8	17	52.0	18

MONEY MARKET					
Access Money	92.38	92.38	100.0		
Fidelity Cash	92.73	92.73	100.0	4	112
US Cash Acc	92.24	92.24	100.0		
Lamontech Cash	91.91	91.91	100.0		
Investment Co Cash	92.77	92.77	100.0		
Bidford Money Mkt Ac:	92.04	91.93	100.0		
Morgan Gen Cash Acc:	92.04	92.04	100.0		
First Natl Money Mkt Ac:	92.13	92.13	100.0	110.0	3
Pearl Trust Pmt Fvts	91.58	91.58	100.0	2	105
S&P Cash	91.10	91.10	91.2		
Bank of Montreal Inc:	92.03	92.03	100.0		
The Commerce National Pk:	92.01	92.23	100.1		
Windsor Capital Markets	91.77	91.77	100.0		
Westlake City Reserve				1	15.2

**MANAGED**

[illegible]

Black Horse	Abstract	MEG	282.84	297.52	98.4	169	77.2	146
Black Horse	Abstract	MEI	115.57	121.68	103.4	28	79.9	134

[illegible]

CU Venture Kings	105.0	110.6	101.8	82	81.1	129
Eagle Star Adventure	131.4	138.4	97.6	162	69.5	165
Eagle Star Blue Chip	153.8	161.9	101.9	78	89.6	42

[illegible]

38	Gresham Mord. Ill.	475.4	501.0	101.2	99	82.4	120
39	Gresham Mord. Ill.	475.4	501.0	101.2	99	82.4	120

36	36	Gratwick Financial III	89.99	94.7	100.5	99	92.4	120
37	37	Gratwick Mgt III	475.5	491	501.5	112	99	624
38	38	Gratwick Mgt II	217.1	227.5	237.5	101	99	101
39	39	Henderson Mgt	121.4	127.2	137.2	101.6	100	101
40	40	HFS Mgt	121.4	127.6	130.8	109	99.1	6
41	41	HFS Mgt Fund 3	121.4	127.6	130.8	109	112	7
42	42	HFS Mgt Fund 3	121.4	127.6	130.8	109	112	7
43	43	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
44	44	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
45	45	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
46	46	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
47	47	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
48	48	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
49	49	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
50	50	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
51	51	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
52	52	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
53	53	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
54	54	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
55	55	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
56	56	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
57	57	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
58	58	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
59	59	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
60	60	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
61	61	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
62	62	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
63	63	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
64	64	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
65	65	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
66	66	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
67	67	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
68	68	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
69	69	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
70	70	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
71	71	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
72	72	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
73	73	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
74	74	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
75	75	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
76	76	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
77	77	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
78	78	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
79	79	Interstate Mgt	102.40	105.5	107.8	107	87	23
80	80	Interstate Mgt	1					

14	Lifetime Mngd. Skill	93.1	98.0	108.9	106	-	-
18	Lifetime Mngd. Opportunity	82.8	87.2	102.0	70	-	-
27	Lifetime Mngd. Security	98.0	103.2	108.7	112	-	-

[illegible]

24	Prosperity Social Acct.	91.9	97.8	100.1	131	79.1	139
15	Prosperity Five Star Acct.	151.0	155.5	100.0	135	53.7	110
2	Prosperity Mgmt Acct	193.5	204.0	104.1	18	92.8	18

15	2	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
16	3	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
17	4	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
18	5	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
19	6	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
20	7	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
21	8	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
22	9	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
23	10	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
24	11	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
25	12	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
26	13	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
27	14	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
28	15	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
29	16	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
30	17	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
31	18	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
32	19	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
33	20	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
34	21	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
35	22	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
36	23	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
37	24	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
38	25	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
39	26	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
40	27	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
41	28	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
42	29	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
43	30	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
44	31	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
45	32	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
46	33	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
47	34	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
48	35	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
49	36	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
50	37	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
51	38	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
52	39	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
53	40	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
54	41	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
55	42	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
56	43	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
57	44	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
58	45	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
59	46	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
60	47	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
61	48	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
62	49	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
63	50	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
64	51	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
65	52	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
66	53	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
67	54	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	139
68	55	Property	181	1978	1001	131	781	

19	Royal Life School	576.7	810.2	103.7	21	86.1	82
2	Royal Liver School	53.1	35.9	101.6	87	92.7	20
11	S&P Balanced Inv Fd	515.0	548.1	98.9	142	88.5	15

[illegible]

1	San Alliance PG Invest A	209.8	183.3	29.5	30.7	85
32	San Life Canada Int. Mgmt.	257.0	270.5	100.0	138	90
15	San Life Distributions	223.5	235.3	102.3	92.1	24

82	San Antonio FC (H)	2:09.0	270.5	228.5	93
81	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	92
80	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	91
79	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	90
78	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	89
77	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	88
76	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	87
75	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	86
74	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	85
73	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	84
72	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	83
71	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	82
70	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	81
69	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	80
68	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	79
67	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	78
66	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	77
65	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	76
64	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	75
63	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	74
62	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	73
61	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	72
60	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	71
59	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	70
58	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	69
57	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	68
56	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	67
55	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	66
54	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	65
53	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	64
52	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	63
51	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	62
50	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	61
49	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	60
48	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	59
47	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	58
46	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	57
45	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	56
44	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	55
43	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	54
42	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	53
41	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	52
40	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	51
39	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	50
38	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	49
37	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	48
36	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	47
35	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	46
34	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	45
33	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	44
32	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	43
31	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	42
30	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	41
29	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	40
28	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	39
27	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	38
26	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	37
25	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	36
24	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	35
23	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	34
22	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	33
21	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	32
20	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	31
19	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	30
18	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	29
17	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	28
16	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	27
15	San Luis (H)	2:08.0	270.5	228.5	26
1					

The prices in this page refer to Thursday trading

The prices in this page refer to Thursday trading.



# Portfolio

## PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your share price movements on this page daily. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the weekly prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price	Dividend	Yield %	P/E
1	American	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
2	TSW	Leisure	153	72	46	88
3	Waters	Water	153	72	46	88
4	Goldcrest	Paper, Print, Adv	153	72	46	88
5	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
6	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
7	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
8	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
9	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
10	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
11	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
12	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
13	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
14	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
15	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
16	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
17	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
18	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
19	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
20	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
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22	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
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25	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
26	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
27	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
28	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
29	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
30	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
31	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
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36	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
37	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
38	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
39	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
40	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
41	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
42	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
43	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
44	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
45	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
46	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
47	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
48	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
49	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88
50	Wolmink	Chemicals	153	72	46	88

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

There were no valid claims for the £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The money will be added to Monday's prize.

BRITISH FUNDS		
High	Low	Share Price

SHORTS (Under Five Years)		
High	Low	Share Price

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS		
High	Low	Share Price

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS		
High	Low	Share Price

UNDATED		
High	Low	Share Price

INDEX-LINKED		
High	Low	Share Price

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP		
High	Low	Share Price

ELECTRICALS		
High	Low	Share Price

# STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Market sombre

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 22. Dealings end November 2. Settlement day November 12. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (an) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 37).

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

BREWERIES						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

BUILDING, ROADS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

FINANCE, LAND						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

FOODS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

DRAPERY, STORES						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D						
High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

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High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

# Portfolio

## PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND  
£4,000  
Claims required for +194 points  
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	Yield %	P/E

© Ex dividend a Ex at b Forecast dividend a Interim dividend passed b Price at suspension c Dividend and yield exclude a special dividend d Pre-merger figures e Forecast earnings a Ex other b Ex rights a Ex zero or share split 1 Tax-free No significant data.







## WEEKEND MONEY

# Winter bills fuel need to hold winning hand with credit cards

By HELEN FREIDMAN

THE 1 percentage-point cut in bank base rates may be enough encouragement for some people to regain control of the family budget. But as yet there is little tangible benefit from the reduction. Many mortgages are subject to annual review and other loan rates show little sign of falling.

The pressure is greatest when the large winter bills come along. With little spare cash available, some borrowing or use of credit or store cards may be unavoidable. Banks may also suggest the use of a budget account or revolving credit plan, but other options should be considered first.

Bank budget accounts were popular in the Seventies. The customer lists all expected expenditure throughout the year, such as gas, electricity, community charge, water rates, insurance and telephone bills, and then divides the total by 12. The resulting figure is the amount that should be paid into the account each month. As the bills arise they are paid out of the account, which is sometimes in credit and sometimes in debit but by the end of the year, in theory, balances out.

A number of banks still offer these accounts, such as Lloyds Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland. John Mayers of the Royal Bank, said: "Nowadays, these accounts are less attractive because many household bills, such as the poll tax, insurance premiums, gas and electricity bills can be spread over the year anyway - often at little or no cost."

The bank budget account may still appeal to couples



who live together and want a shared household account. A more flexible approach is the revolving credit account. With this type of scheme the amount that can be borrowed is a multiple of the amount the customer is prepared to pay in each month. The maximum multiple is normally 30. Someone who pays in £25 each month, for example, would have a credit limit of £750. A cheque book is supplied and standing orders and direct debit facilities are available to meet any sort of bill.

The advantage of revolving credit is that it allows customers to pitch repayments at an affordable level. The disadvantage is that on top of the

interest payments when overdrawn there is either a monthly fee or bank charges on each standing order or cheque written. Many store cards also operate on the lines of revolving credit accounts. There are several disadvantages to store cards, especially for those working to a tight budget. They tend to discourage customers from shopping around for the best bargain and the interest rates charged are usually higher than the mainstream credit cards.

The Burton Group, for example, currently charges an annual percentage rate (APR) of 38.4 per cent. Customers with more than one plastic

card may find it progressively harder to keep track of debts. An increasingly popular alternative is the budget credit card. Barclays introduced its Assent Mastercard in March last year, which can be used like an ordinary credit card but card holders select a monthly payment of between £16 and £300 and are given a credit limit of 25 times that amount. The monthly payment date can also be chosen by the card holder. The bank says that more than 100,000 applications have been received for Assent.

Assent has tended to appeal to younger people. "The average age of a card holder is 34

and the average credit limit is £1,000. Most of the purchases are leisure and fashion related and there is not so much usage abroad compared with ordinary credit cards," a spokeswoman said.

The advantage of this type of card is that customers are not restricted to one shop and it is cheaper than a store card for people who borrow. The current APR on Assent is 22.2 per cent. This is lower than Barclaycard, with its interest rate of 24.6 per cent (or 27.8 per cent if the £8 annual charge is taken into account). Since there is no interest-free period with Assent it is not suitable if the account is paid off each month.

It is possible for outstanding balances from other cards to be transferred to Assent. A similar card was introduced this June by TSB. With TSB Vantage, which is a Visa card, holders can decide both the monthly payment - between £10 and £100 - and the credit limit at 15, 20, 25, or 30 times the chosen monthly payment to a maximum of £3,000.

The current APR on Vantage is 23.8 per cent, compared with 31.3 per cent on Trustcard, the TSB's normal credit card. Interest is also paid on credit balances. This is currently 5 per cent.

For someone who wants to keep debt repayments under control, budget credit cards seem to be the most flexible approach. But as a result the repayments can continue over much longer periods than is necessary.

A customer wanting to spread payments over, say, three to six months, will find that an ordinary credit card could still work out cheaper.

## BRIEFINGS

POTENTIAL electricity shareholders who apply for shares through Sharelink's special service before November 14 will be able to sell their stakes on the first day of dealing for as little as £5. Investors can pre-arrange for Sharelink to sell their shares as soon as official dealing begins, either at a pre-selected limit, costing a maximum of £7.50, or at "best", for £5.

The Norwich & Peterborough Building Society will charge shareholders a flat rate of £12, discounted to £8, if their application for electricity shares is lodged through the society. A £1 donation will go to the BBC Children in Need Appeal.

The Halifax Building Society is launching a new service for expatriates wanting to buy a home in back in Britain. The service provides property-finding and residential letting

and management facilities, as well as the society's international expatriate mortgage, which has previously only been available to customers living in Hong Kong.

Midland Bank is to lower interest rates on its Orchard, Vector and Meridian accounts by 1 per cent from November 1. Orchard will now pay a maximum of 6.25 per cent on sums of £1,000 or more, Vector will pay 7.0 per cent and Meridian will pay up to 8.75 per cent on £2,000 or more.

The Leamington Spa Building Society is cutting rates to new borrowers a further 1 per cent to 13.5 per cent, having already lowered rates 0.9 per cent earlier this month.

A new fixed-rate mortgage set at 12.95 per cent (APR 13.80 per cent) for the first year is being made available in endowment or capital-

and-interest form by the Leeds Permanent Building Society.

The Scarborough Building Society's new Early Start Discount is now offering a fixed repayment rate of 12.25 per cent for first-time buyers until May 1991, when interest will revert to the society's prevailing variable rate.

Prospero, the direct insurer, is offering a 20 per cent discount on its newly-revised house and contents policy to customers taking out home insurance for the first time, and a 10 per cent discount for customers over the age of 50. The policy operates on a £30,000 total claims limit.

Investors who register with the Nottingham Building Society before December 7 and subsequently open a tax-exempt special savings account (Tessa) before April 5 will receive a

bonus 1 per cent interest on the first year's contributions.

Confederation Life Insurance, in conjunction with Confederation Bank, has launched a five-year Tessa account that combines the tax advantages with life cover. In the event of a saver's death, an amount at least equal to the value of the account at the time, plus additional life cover, will be paid out. Interest on the account will be guaranteed at 12.25 per cent gross.

MIM Britannia is to accept annual direct debits of £50 or more on its Rupert Children Trust, ranked fourth out of 202 UK growth funds for the 12 months to October. The £3.5 million fund already offers investors the option of either a lump sum investment (minimum £50) or a regular savings plan (minimum £10 per month).

## COME INTO SOME MONEY?

Inherited wealth or a golden handshake can be as much a burden as a blessing.

Spending all of it would leave you no better off than you were before, while investing some of it could make you a tidy nest egg.

The question is, where?

Historically, investments linked to the Stock Market have comfortably outperformed most savings accounts over the long term.

But there isn't a warning on investment advertising for nothing: the value of the money invested can go down as well as up, and past performance is no guarantee for the future, so getting reliable advice is crucial before you commit yourself and your money.



It makes sound sense to get financial advice that's independent.

To help you find the right adviser for you, with whom your initial consultation could well be free, we've put together a booklet about the benefits of advice that's independent, a checklist of things to look out for when choosing an adviser and a list of independent financial advisers near you.

To get your information pack about financial advice that's independent, phone 081 200 3000 today, or complete and send the coupon below.

To: IFA Promotion Limited, Unit 3, Air Call Business Centre, Colindale Lane, London NW9 6BW.

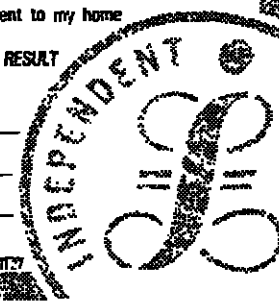
Please send me a list of ten independent financial advisers, convenient to my home or work address, below. WE GUARANTEE THAT NO SALESMAN WILL CALL OR PHONE YOU AS A RESULT OF THIS COUPON.

NAME

ADDRESS

(Please print clearly, according to words in words enclosed)

PLEASE STATE POSTCODE



## BRADFORD & BINGLEY (DOUGLAS) LTD NEW RATES OF INTEREST FROM 1st NOVEMBER 1990.

Scheme	Gross % p.a.
MAXIMISER Independent Account (£5,000 - £24,999) (£25,000 plus)	14.00 14.50
MAXIMISER Independent Income (£5,000 - £24,999) (£25,000 plus)	13.25 13.75
MAXIMISER Independent Access	13.00
MAXIMISER Independent Bond*	15.00

Interest rates are variable. \*Account no longer available. Exclusively for UK Residents.



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(DOUGLAS) LIMITED

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## THE GT GERMANY FUND

## YOU CAN SHARE IN GERMANY'S FUTURE FOR £30 A MONTH.

## NOW MUST BE THE RIGHT TIME TO SIGN UP.

Now that reunification is a reality, the potential of the German stock market is simply too great to ignore.

It's not just that German industry now has sixteen million new consumers eager for its products and services.

Or that it can draw upon a large, skilled and relatively low-paid workforce.

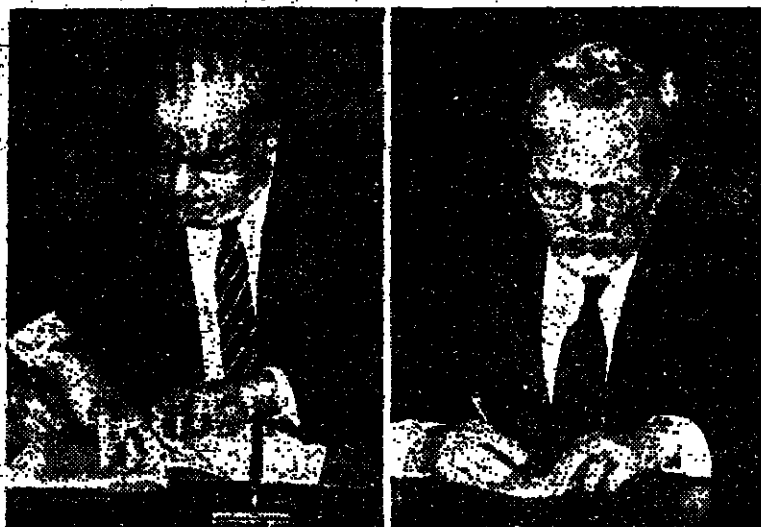
It's also that Germany is now established as the economic powerhouse of Europe - and as one of the three economic superpowers of the world.

And a time when share prices have fallen is an excellent time to begin to build a stake in the German economy.

Especially when you can save as little as £30 a month (or more, of course) in the GT Germany Fund.

GT was the first unit trust group to recognise the need for a fund specialising in Germany.

An initial investment of £1,000 at launch in September 1985 would have grown to £1,889 by 3.90, with net income reinvested.



If you had invested £30 a month since launch, your money would be worth £2,365 at 3.90 - or a total investment of £1,770. (Offer to bid, income reinvested. Source: Micropal.)

Past performance is not a guide to the future. The price of units and the income from them can fluctuate. To find out more about how you can benefit from regular saving in the GT Germany Fund and to obtain scheme particulars, please return the coupon below.

To: Lucy Founness, Client Services Department, GT Unit Managers Limited, FREEPOST, London EC2B 2DL.  
Telephone: 071 283 2575. Please send me details of the GT Germany Investment Accounts.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TIME/10

GT Unit Managers Limited is a member of BMO, LAUTRO and the UTA.

**GT UNIT MANAGERS LIMITED**

## BRADFORD & BINGLEY'S INVESTMENT RATES FROM THURSDAY 1st NOVEMBER 1990.

Scheme	Net % p.a.	Gross Equivalent % p.a.*
Ordinary Account	6.00 (6.09 CAR)	8.00 (8.12 CAR)
Deposit Account	5.50 (5.57 CAR)	7.33 (7.43 CAR)
MAXIMISER Bonus Account (£1,000 - £4,999) (£5,000 plus, including full bonus)	10.00 11.00	13.33 14.67
MAXIMISER Option 1 (Regular Income)	9.58 9.13	12.77 12.17
MAXIMISER Option 3 (Regular Income)	10.08 9.58	13.44 12.77
MAXIMISER Option 6 (Regular Income)	11.75 10.80	15.13 14.40
Flexible Savings Account (including full bonus)	7.00	9.33
Flexible Savings Account - Special Issue (including full bonus)	10.00	13.33
S.A.Y.E. (7 years equivalent return)	8.62	11.49
High Yield S.A.Y.E. (7 years equivalent return)	9.64	12.85
TIMESAVER Account (£1 - £249) (£250 - £999) (£1,000 plus)	6.00 7.00 8.00	8.00 9.33 10.67
		Gross % p.a.
MAXIMISER Overseas Account	-	12.94
MAXIMISER TAX PLAN Account	-	13.75

Scheme	Net % p.a.	Gross Equivalent % p.a.*
MAXIMISER Income* (£1,000 - £4,999) (£5,000 plus)	9.00 9.36	12.00 12.77
MAXIMISER Growth* (£5,000 plus)	10.08	13.44
MAXIMISER Top Rate* (Income)*	10.46 9.95	13.95 13.27
MAXIMISER Two Year Bond* (Income)*	11.25 10.78	15.00 14.77
MAXIMISER Elite II* Elite III* Elite IV*	10.08 (10.33 CAR) 11.50 11.75 11.33	13.44 (13.69 CAR) 15.33 15.67 15.10
Premium Access (Issue 1)*	8.09 (8.25 CAR)	10.79 (11.01 CAR)
Premium Access (Issue 2)*	8.25	11.07
Real Gold (including bonus)*	8.90	11.57
Extra Interest**	8.09 (8.25 CAR)	10.79 (11.00 CAR)
Extra Income**	8.09 (8.25 CAR)	10.79 (11.00 CAR)
High Income**	9.19 (9.33 CAR)	12.17 (12.44 CAR)
High Interest**	9.58	12.77
Acorn/Classmate*	6.00 (6.09 CAR)	8.00 (8.12 CAR)
Holiday Saver (including full bonus)*	7.00	9.33

CAR = Compounded Annual Rate. \*Accounts no longer available. Interest rates are variable. \*\*The Gross Equivalent Rate assumes that Income Tax is paid at the basic rate of 25%. \*Effective from 1st December 1991. All interest rates have been reduced. For details of other accounts please contact your local branch.

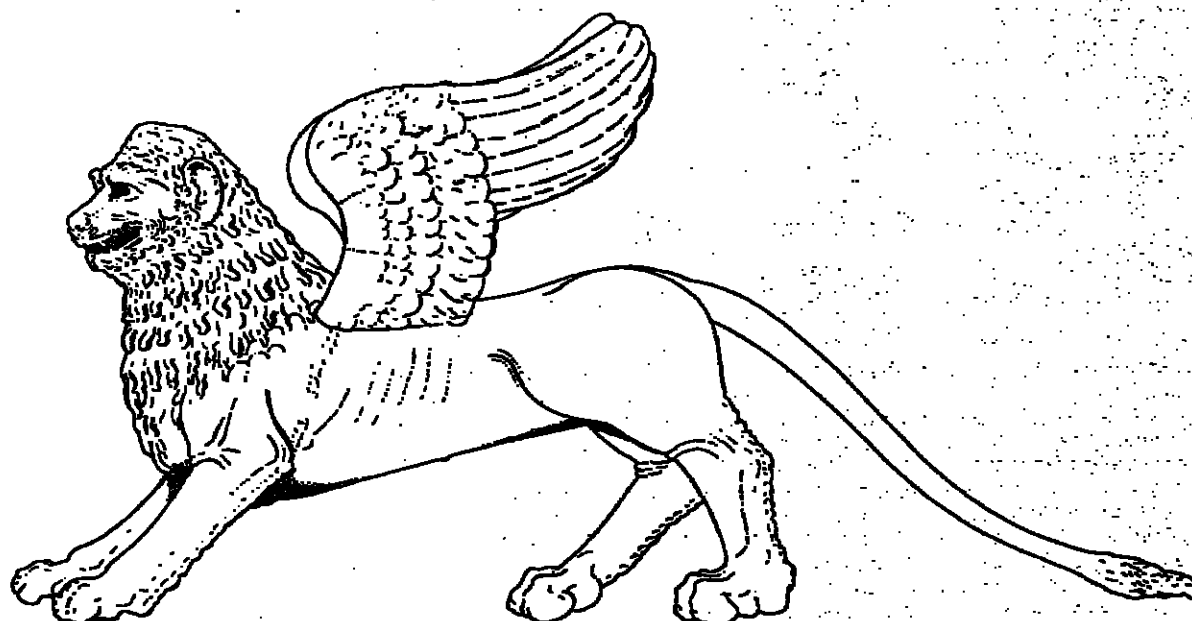


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BUILDING SOCIETY

HEAD OFFICE: P.O. BOX 2, BINGLEY, WEST YORKSHIRE BD16 2LW. REGULATED IN THE CONDUCT OF INVESTMENT BUSINESS BY SIB.



# The Fiat Group is proud to have been associated with the recent State visit to the United Kingdom of President Francesco Cossiga of Italy



## THE LION OF VENICE

The Lion of St. Mark was brought to London by Fiat for an exhibition at the British Museum. Officially opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in the presence of President Cossiga, 'The Lion of Venice' exhibition runs until the 13th January 1991.



## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Furthermore, the recent endowment by Fiat for the Fiat-Serena Professorship of Italian studies at Oxford University was inaugurated this week by the Italian President.

**Fiat has been present in Britain since 1903 – just four years after its founding.**

**Today the Fiat Group in Britain comprises 25 companies in diverse sectors including automobiles, commercial vehicles, farm and earthmoving machinery, automotive components, lubricants, financial services, bioengineering, civil engineering, chemicals, fibres, robotics and advanced research.**



The Fiat Group

Fiat UK Ltd, Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AL



## WEEKEND MONEY

## LETTERS

## Doubts about the wisdom of deposit insurance

From the professor of personal finance, City University Business School

Sir, Your editorial on October 20 called for "More (investor) protection not less." I do not wish to comment on the specific incident which triggered this remark, but there should be serious doubt about the wisdom of your general conclusion. Safer returns for investors are obviously a desirable goal; however, there is a danger of ignoring the wider economic effects of deposit insurance.

Deposit insurance can have the effect of removing the incentive of investors to monitor what is happening to their own money. As a result it can encourage investment firms to offer higher returns by opting for riskier investment strategies. Additionally, it can make fraud easier since the investor is less reluctant to part with funds and is more easily attracted by offers of

high rewards. This is an important element in the current US deposit insurance disaster.

The insurance premium has to be paid by somebody. In the UK the safe and prudent firms are being required to subsidize the marginal and potentially fraudulent. There is a general benefit to investment firms from raising confidence in the industry but this benefit is heavily offset by the cost of funding the deposit insurance scheme. An actuarially sound insurance scheme would charge relatively high premiums to the less credit worthy. Regulators do not have the appropriate incentives to monitor risk since their own money is not at stake.

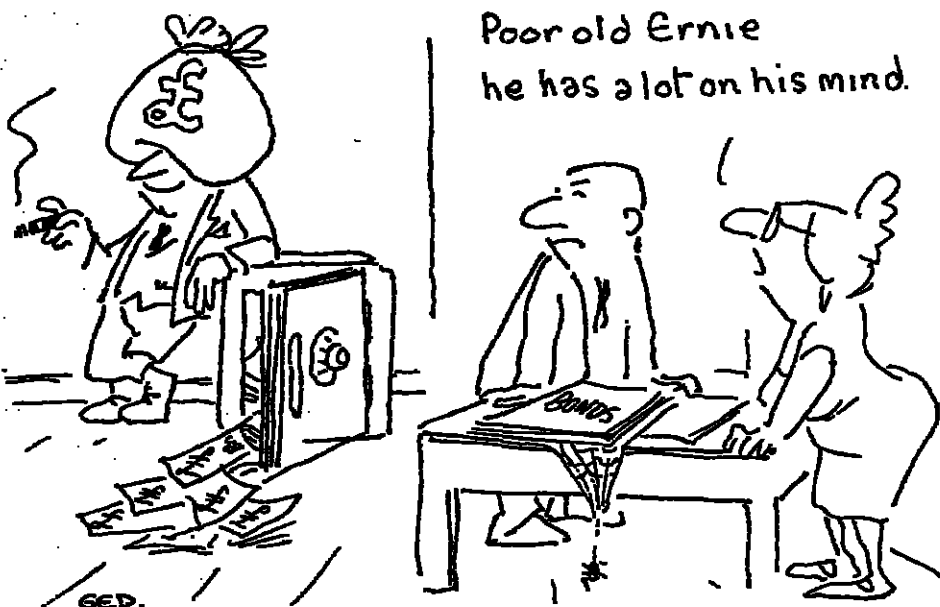
Investment is a risky business. Investors should not be encouraged to believe that their capital has some kind of gilt-edged guarantee. No deposit insurance scheme should offer 100 per cent insurance

on any sum of money. The investor must take some residual responsibility for what happens to his or her money. Risk averse investors should stick to capital secure savings deposits and no insurance scheme should encourage them to do otherwise.

The 1979 Banking Act introduced 75 per cent insurance on the first 20,000 of a deposit. The Financial Services Act has 100 per cent insurance on the first 30,000 and 90 per cent on the next 20,000. The Banking Act got it right, the Financial Services Act got it wrong.

A sounder financial system will be better encouraged by less deposit insurance rather than more.

Yours sincerely,  
K. Alec Chrystal,  
Professor of Personal Finance,  
City University Business School,  
Barbican Centre,  
London EC2.



## Ernie suffers from amnesia in old age

From Mr J. R. Chester  
Sir, Thank you for an interesting article on Ernie (October 20).

I have held £500 bonds for 30 years and had nine £25 prizes in the first 20 years and one £50 prize in the last ten.

At 11,000 to one, £500 should score every 22 months. Mine almost did in the first 20 years, but not since. Your £2,835 recent investor might at best score six times in two years, with £600 won he probably did better than that.

For early investors Ernie in old age seems to suffer from amnesia. A sobering thought: invested in successive National Savings issues my £500 would be worth more than £3,000 now instead of £725.

Yours faithfully,  
J.R. CHESTER,  
30 Ingham Road,  
South Croydon,  
Surrey.  
October 20.

## Twist to Barclaycard exchange rate tale

From Dr J. R. Brocklehurst

Sir, I can add a further twist to J.M. Cross's tale (Oct. 13) about credit card exchange rates. Last year Barclaycard's excuse was that they had no control over the exchange rate set by Visa International. This year when Barclaycard offered me a Mastercard as a sweetener for the introduction of the annual fee I accepted thinking that I would gain by using the Mastercard abroad, and so offset some if not all of the annual fee.

How naive can you get?

When the bills duly arrived in September, the exchange rates on both Barclaycards (Visa and Mastercard) were virtually identical, while that on my Royal Bank of Scotland Access card (for which I pay no annual fee) was up to 4 per cent more favourable. This year's excuse is that Barclaycard is free to set its own exchange rate. Guess which credit card I'm now using?

Yours faithfully,  
Dr J. R. Brocklehurst,  
Bishops Cleeve,  
Hertfordshire.

## Car stolen after Royal blunder left motorist without certificate

From Mr L. E. Allwood

Sir, The article on the difficulties for drivers obtaining same-day insurance, by Sara McConnell was interesting - but worse things can happen. I was insured by Royal Insurance for twenty years satisfactorily until 1989. Then, although my cheque

for renewal of my insurance passed through my account without question, I was never sent a certificate of insurance.

Many letters to Maidstone failed to produce either an answer or a certificate. Meantime my car was stolen in Guildford. Because I had no certificate I was unable

## No end to ingenuity of banks

From Mr J. A. Redman

Sir, There seems to be no end to the ingenuity of the banks in extracting money from their customers for the privilege of holding their accounts. Your columns regularly record charges for non-existent services and "arrangement fees" when no arrangement has been made.

My big four banker has just advised me that if I want to continue to receive my paid cheques there will now be a charge of £3 per statement sheet, which "... will go a little way towards recovering the costs incurred by the bank in providing this service."

How long will it be I wonder, before the banks introduce a charge for providing a cheque book, and a fee for each monthly statement, towards "recovering the costs incurred in providing these services"? Indeed, how far off is the day when banks install turnstiles in their branches, to collect an admission charge for entering the bank?

Yours faithfully,  
J. A. REDMAN,  
18 Sandy Lodge Road,  
Moor Park,  
Rickmansworth,  
Hertfordshire.

From Mr J. F. Hills

Sir, Your correspondent (Mrs Ruth M Porter, October 13) complained that Barclays Bank kept almost a third of

the value of a sterling cheque drawn on an overseas bank. The National Westminster Bank can beat that: they recently deducted 53 per cent of the value of a sterling cheque sent from Paris. The amount of the item was £15.00, the commission £6.00 and expenses £1.96.

When I phoned to enquire whether there might perhaps have been some mistake, the clerk excused herself to consult a colleague. Her hand apparently did not completely cover the mouthpiece because I heard her say: "I've got a bloke here moaning about commission." One wonders whether her attitude reflected that of her employer.

Yours faithfully,  
J. F. HILLS,  
3 Kings Close,  
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

● Letters are welcomed. But *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

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SAVE & PROSPER  
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

## Savings trusts take interest in long delay before dealing

By BARBARA ELLIS

REGULAR savings schemes can be far from the smoothly functioning mechanisms investors may imagine, especially where investment trusts are concerned.

Money can take up to three weeks after leaving an investor's bank account to reach its destination and any interest earned during that interval usually has to be signed away towards administrative costs.

Trust managers put most of the blame on the banks, but admit that money is transferred faster into unit trust savings plans when the same banks are involved.

A reader from Devon, who saves with Murray Johnstone's income investment trust, found that while her bank statement showed direct debits on or around the seventh of each month, the investment trust's statement recorded purchases of investment trust shares on dates ranging from ten to fourteen days later.

"Is the delay necessary and whom does it benefit?" she asked.

Majorie Calder, of Murray Johnstone, said that the terms of the savings scheme allowed the managers up to three weeks in which to invest, but in practice they dealt as soon as possible.

She explained that the £200,000 debited each month from 2,500 regular savers was held in a suspense account, with any interest going towards the cost of the scheme, as noted on the application form filled in by savers.

"This is run on a no-revenue basis," said Ms Calder. "The stockbrokers get 0.2 per cent, but Murray Johnstone gets nothing out of it."

After investigating the time taken to buy income trust shares for savings plans, Ms Calder said it appeared that the bank had run over the seven days it set for clearance of direct debits and had not been chased by the trust managers.

"We will keep a greater watch on it to make sure they keep to the minimum time not to something that is comfortable for them," she said.

With unit trust savings schemes Murray Johnstone kept exactly to time, with a dealing day set for the 16th of each month following collection of direct debits on the seventh, added Ms Calder.

Ivory & Sime asks savers buying its unit trusts to make out bankers' orders for the thirteenth of the month and aims to deal as soon as possible after the twentieth.

"It is something that is lax at the moment," said Bridget Cleverley, of Ivory & Sime. "You could be out of money for up to two weeks with our scheme."

However, the group is seriously considering changing to the direct debit system it already uses for personal eq-



Crowley: same day

uity plan investments, she added.

Foreign & Colonial operates its 17,000 savings schemes by taking in bankers' orders and cheques in two monthly cycles, but will be switching to a weekly system next year.

A spokesman said that the group tended to keep the timing of its buying somewhat vague so as to avoid alerting market-makers. Investors were told that there could be a delay of up to two weeks and were required to sign a disclaimer for any interest earned during that time.

Robert Fleming uses direct debits to collect about £500,000 from 7,000 regular investment trust savers on the fifteenth of the month. It buys shares on the following Tuesday or Wednesday. The savers sign a waiver of interest, which goes to Robert Fleming, the parent bank.

Save & Prosper, the unit trust division of Robert Fleming, takes in about £1.5 million a month from 18,000 regular savers, plus £250,000 from 5,000 holders of personal equity plans.

With the unit trusts the money is collected by standing order on the seventh and kept in a non-interest bearing client account until the sixteenth when it is invested. For PEP holders, the only material difference is that they pay by direct debit.

MIM Britannia debits £225,000 from the accounts of 1,857 investment trust savers on the fifteenth of each month and buys shares on the following Wednesday: a maximum of six days later. As with other savings scheme, savers sign away the right to any interest on the uninvested money.

By comparison, MIM collects £1.25 million from 20,000 regular unit trust savers on the first of each month and buys the units the same day, according to Keith Crowley, marketing director.

However, as long as no one was profiting from the interest on the money, investing on the day of receipt was not the prime consideration, said Mr Crowley. "Consistency is the main thing you want with a savings scheme. What matters is that people keep it going for a number of years."

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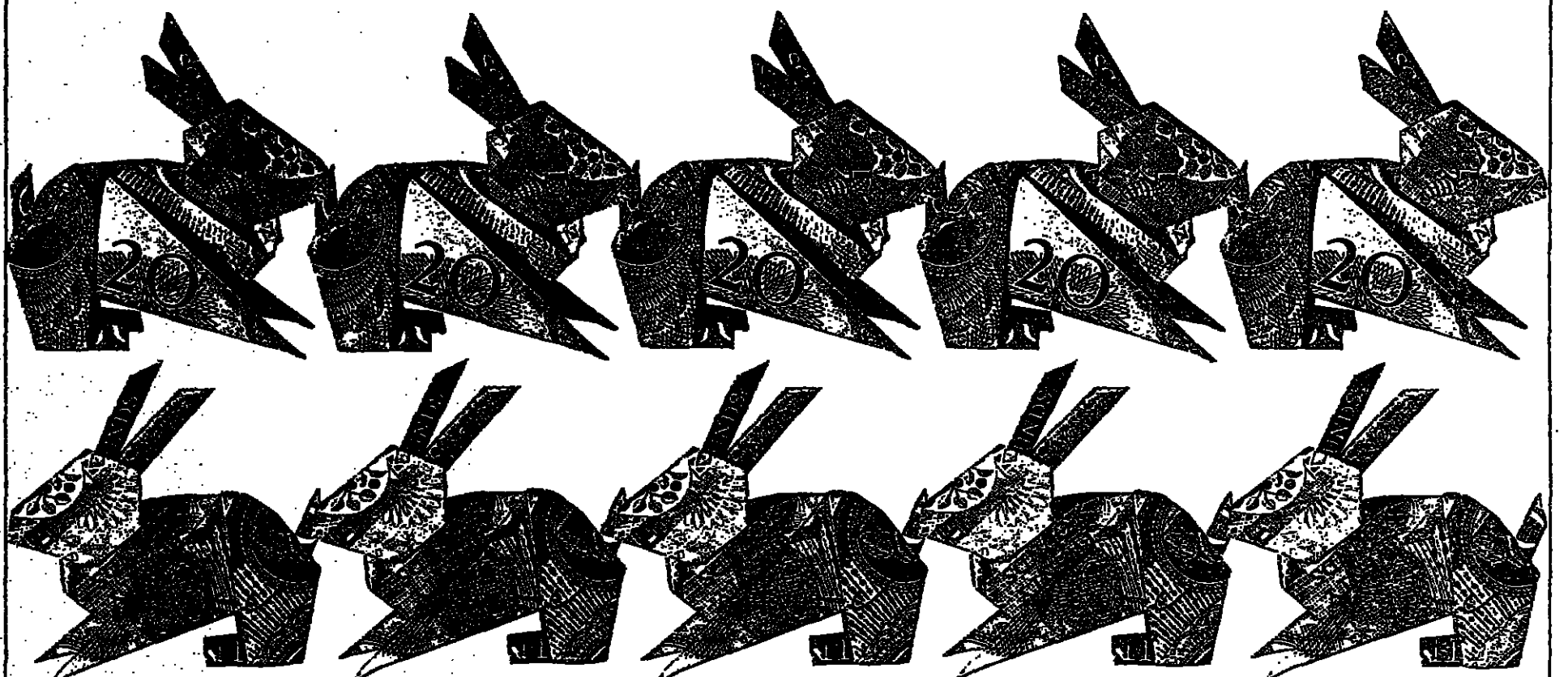
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At long last lenders and brokers who prey on people in debt, persuading them to take out riskier loans than those already troubling them, are to get their come-uppance. Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general of fair trading, has threatened to put firms marketing credit to those who already have serious debt problems out of business.

People faced with court proceedings over credit card debts or hire purchase payments are so desperate that they do not ask whether there is a hefty broker's fee to take out a new loan. They do not ask what the annual percentage rate of interest is. They are only concerned to solve their problems. They are easy targets for unscrupulous salesmen, particularly at this time of year.

The credit broker earns more if he lends more, so people in debt are not only offered enough to pay off their existing loans but they are often encouraged to borrow more. The monthly payments may be lower because the loan is over a longer period. The salesman may also suggest taking on an extra few hundred pounds

## High noon for the cowboy loan arrangers

"to give the kids a nice Christmas" or "have a bit of a break after all you've been going through".

A number of firms have already received letters from the Office of Fair Trading warning that if they are to keep their consumer credit licences they must encourage sensible borrowing of the right type of credit on the right terms. Those already warned are lenders and brokers who are known to use mailing lists of debtors with County Court judgments against them to sell loans and who target people with debt problems in their advertisements.

The OFT wants to see "fair and constructive arrangements" for dealing with arrears. Too often people worried by the threat of court proceedings from a credit card company or other finance house have taken on loans that put their home at risk without realising so. Courts cannot make people pay more than they can



### COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK  
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

afford, but most people are terrified of such a threat and a friendly-sounding secured loan seems the answer. The solution can be very short-lived. If the payments on the new loan are not kept up then the family home may be forfeit.

Companies may not wait long before they pursue their money through the courts. Unlike the major banks and building societies, who will try for months to help borrowers in trouble to meet their payments, other lenders tend to repossess early.

The next step is for the OFT to make a public example of a lender who encourages people to take on what they cannot afford,

or is careless of whether their customers are able to pay. The lenders have the security of knowing they can evict them if they do not pay. In the meantime they earn a handsome return on their money.

### Chase chase

Former Chase Manhattan private stockbroking clients who were sold to Stock Group at the beginning of the year are being given the run-around. Their money has been frozen since the beginning of June and it appears no one wants to help. One investor spent a

whole day on the telephone this week trying to find out why she could not obtain a claim form from the banking depositors protection scheme like other investors with money stranded in the British & Commonwealth Merchant Bank.

She was eventually told that she was at a disadvantage because she had been transferred from Chase and had not signed a letter of authorisation for Stock Group to deal for her. She could not, therefore, make a claim on the fund, which can pay out up to £15,000 per individual.

Most other investors with the merchant bank have been able to make claims since August 9 following the creditors' meeting. Some direct investors received their first payments on September 14. But former Chase clients are told to consult Stock Group.

At Stock Group a spokesman said they were not responsible for helping clients to obtain money from the bank scheme. He said

that The Securities Association, Financial Intermediaries Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association and the Bank of England should help investors.

The Bank of England says it needs details from the brokers who deposited money on behalf of clients. It needs their names and addresses and information on deals done. No money could be paid until this information is sent.

Stock replies that in order to do this they need to know exactly what the bank wants and they do not.

The Securities and Investments Board says it is not its problem either, although a broker is involved. No client money has been lost. It has "only been frozen" it says. Investors who have not had access to their money for almost five months see it differently.

They are worried about the safety of their money and exhausted by the battle they are having in trying to get access to it. The excuses are wearing thin. Someone ought to make sure that they receive some money, and quickly.

## Desperately seeking Baku

By RICHARD IRVING

RELATIVES of the British royal family and peers of the realm are among a group of British shareholders about to receive more than £3 million in compensation from the Soviet government.

The investors were all shareholders of a company whose assets were seized after the Russian Revolution.

Baku Consolidated Oilfields was incorporated in 1919 and had assets in the oil producing region of Baku in Azerbaijan, now part of the Soviet Union. The company's assets were confiscated by the Red Army in the Twenties in the aftermath of the Russian revolution. The company was wound up by the High Court in London in 1943.

Although assets realised outside the Soviet Union were sufficient to pay the company's creditors, shareholders have been lobbying both the British and Soviet governments for compensation for more than 70 years.

Now, the Foreign Compensation Commission, which was set up after perestroika to



Shareholder search: Peat Marwick's John Alexander

distribute funds paid over by the Soviet Union, has authorised a payment of more than £3 million to KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, liquidator of the company.

The problem facing John Alexander, partner at the firm, is to try and locate Baku shareholders. "When its assets were confiscated in the 1920s the company had 21,000 shareholders who will now, for the first time, be entitled to receive a return on their investment. My task is to trace these

shareholders or their heirs." Letters to shareholders have been sent to the last known addresses but many are being returned to Mr Alexander's office unopened.

Nevertheless, more than 250 people have already proved their entitlement to compensation.

Anyone with shares in the company should write to: John Alexander, KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, PO Box 730, 20, Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP.

## Public help for pension private eyes

BRITAIN'S amateur pensions detectives are about to receive official help. From next April, a government-sponsored pension-tracing service will come into being, enabling the 12 million people in occupational pension plans to track down money paid into schemes since 1975 (Lindsay Cook writes).

On average, people with pension schemes change jobs four-and-a-half times during their working lives. Many lose touch with their former companies and fail to take up the benefits built up in those plans.

But next month, the government will announce details of its pension tracing service. It will be run by the Occupational Pensions Board and will deal with entitlements built up in 400,000 occupational plans. A register of all current schemes will be set up to make tracing easier.

Pensions built up before 1975 will, however, fall outside the scope of the board. Volunteer help will still be needed to trace such money.

Griff Shepherd is the Philip Marlowe of pensions, an amateur sleuth who spends months tracking down pensions for people who left jobs as long as 40 years ago. He works as a volunteer tracer for the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service, a London charity.

He tries to find any pension entitlement, however long ago it was earned. He normally has five or six cases in hand at any time, and estimates that it usually takes three to five months to find the money.

"Tracing a pension benefit is long and complicated. Many people have moved from one part of the country to



Shepherd: amateur detective

another and have no records of their pension with a company. To make matters worse, many of the company records prior to 1975 are not computerised," he said.

"I turn no one away and I manage to find a pension in about 80 per cent of cases. Sometimes I put an advertisement in the lost and found column of a pensions magazine to see if anyone knows what happened to a particular scheme."

One of Mr Shepherd's more difficult cases involved a woman who worked in Newcastle upon Tyne between 1958 and 1964. She moved to Wolverhampton and thought she was entitled to a pension for the six years she had been with the Newcastle company.

Mr Shepherd doubted that she would have a deferred pension. In

those days many people took a refund of payments instead.

"She had no written records and because she had left in 1964 I knew that employees did not always get a piece of paper when they departed. Entitlements were often in people's memories."

"The first thing I ask is if the person has kept in touch with any of their old colleagues. If such a colleague is now drawing a pension, the chances are that he or she will be able to put me in touch with the pension scheme."

In this case it was not so easy, and after exhaustive research Mr Shepherd placed a small advertisement to see if anyone knew the whereabouts of the scheme. One of the five respondents correctly identified Legal & General as the operators, and Mr Shepherd was able to tell the woman from whom she could claim her small fixed pension.

In most cases the trail is long and involved. "I go to Companies House and see what the receivers did in the case of companies after liquidation. They should have employed the same care in looking after the current and deferred pensions."

"I also get a lot of help from the Department of Social Security in Newcastle."

The Newcastle upon Tyne office handles claims for the state graduated pensions scheme that operated from 1961 to 1975. The records of graduated benefit entitlement often also carry the name of the company operating the pension.

Mr Shepherd was group pensions manager at Grand Metropolitan from 1970 until 1983. Since he started his

sleuthing, he has been called upon to find GrandMet pensions, and those for former ICI staff where he also worked. "It is seldom difficult to identify deferred pensions in the bigger schemes. It is with the smaller ones that disappear where the trouble lies."

Most of the people looking for pensions are approaching retirement, said Mr Shepherd and almost all of them involve pre-1975 entitlements.

The government announced last November that it was to introduce a pensions tracing service. Neville Toller, the secretary and controller of the board, said that a draft consultation document had been published and was being substantially revised following responses.

Mr Toller said it was proposed that former employees should fill in a form giving details of the employment and pension scheme and send it to the pensions register. They would not need documentary evidence of employment to make a claim.

It would not be able to help people who have lost touch with pension entitlements built up before 1975.

"It will become an increasingly valuable tool for individuals to trace where their benefits have been preserved from 1975. As time goes on people want to know where bits of their pension are lodged. Eventually it will be possible to help people trace back pensions 30 or 40 years. But first we must ensure that all schemes lodge with the register and give details of the history of their schemes, and that all past names are recorded."

The task of putting the 400,000 schemes on computer will begin early next year.

## Lautro draws a veil over the guilty

A TOTAL of 12 life assurance and unit trust companies have been told that their sales procedures fall short of industry rules. It follows a recent check by inspectors from the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) on member companies to ensure rules on advertising brochures, salesmen's visits and telephone calls are being obeyed.

But Julia Liesching, Lautro's chief policy and administration officer refuses to bow to public pressure to name names, maintaining that the rules have not been flagrantly flouted and investors have not been put at risk. "It's all a question of balance," she says. "We will of course publish names where the disciplinary committee orders

a public reprimand or where the interests of investors have been jeopardised, but where companies have voluntarily co-operated to change questionable procedures, there is no risk to the investor so nothing can be gained by a public airing."

The disclosure comes in a week when Lautro announced the publication of an advice leaflet for investors who wish to complain at the methods used to sell them life assurance or unit trust policies.

The guide covers financial products such as endowment policies, investment bonds, unit trusts and pensions.

Disgruntled investors should first write to the compliance officer of the company or friendly society whose product was recommended.

the guide says. Under Lautro rules, the member company must arrange for the complaint to be investigated properly and a report to be made within two months.

If the complaint drags on, investors can seek the help of the insurance ombudsman. In certain circumstances Lautro may itself investigate complaints.

Lautro receive over 300 complaints each month. Those which relate to matters covered by the organisation's rules are passed on to Lautro members for action.

The new leaflet can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Complaints Department, Lautro, Canterbury House, Sydenham Road, Croydon CR0 9NE.

## Opas rules against the trustees over scoring penalties on the transfer list

By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

THE Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (Opas) held its last annual meeting as a charity yesterday and reported a dramatic increase in the number of requests for help. Next year it is to become a government-funded body, but will still offer independent advice to members of pension schemes.

The main concern among the 3,500 cases referred to the service this year was the length of time taken to obtain quotes for a transfer value from an occupational pension when an employee is changing jobs, and the time it takes for a transfer to take place. Transfer values were in some cases recalculated before payment, causing disappointment.

Similar complaints came from people who decided to retire early after being given details of their pension, only to find when it was too late to change their minds that the sum would be a lot less.

In one case, a man who was made redundant in 1988 applied for an early pension from his fifteenth birthday in 1989. The fund administrators quoted a pension of £3,078. In April 1989, one month after the first payment of the pension was due, the man was told that "the basis of the calculation was to be adjusted to be consistent with current market conditions". The revised pension was only £846 a year.

After intervention by Opas the trustees agreed to grant the early retirement pension originally quoted, backdated to 1989.

Some of the problems arose because advice was given, in the early stages, by a member of staff who was not fully conversant with the pension scheme, said Margaret Grainger, Opas chairman.

A new problem, "experienced many times", arose from short-lived money-purchase contracted-out schemes. Once the impact of the commission had been taken into account the funds were exhausted when the premiums to the state scheme had been paid out.

Scheme members received neither additional benefits nor refunds of their contributions. Miss Grainger said that members were only promised



Referee and victim: Margaret Grainger and Maurice Corr

the product of the investment. They were not told how the administration was working.

"Individuals are not told implicitly of the front-end charges, and when they left or when the scheme folded they were not paid anything."

The cases were a cause of considerable concern. "It is numerically coming out as a high element," she said.

Another serious problem was the number of companies that deducted pension payments from wages but did not hand them over to the pension scheme.

Terence Brand, deputy chairman, said: "Quite a large number of companies are wound down. Possibly the last priority is the payments to the pension scheme. The insurance companies say the trustees are responsible. Often they are in the invidious position of being employees as well as trustees."

Company pension schemes must change the way they treat early leavers or risk mass desertions. Pensions and Investment Research Consultants (PIRC) told a seminar set up to answer what is wrong with transfer values (Barbara Ellis writes).

This comes at a time when pension providers have begun to see transfers as an expanding business.

This year, only the second in which transfers from company schemes to personal pensions have been possible, switches of this kind could top £3 billion, yielding commis-

sions of £120 million for brokers and agents.

PIRC, advisers to unions and local authorities, said that transfer problems affect almost all schemes, not just a bad handful, and identified younger people as the main losers.

The basic defect is that pension schemes are generally designed to benefit employees who stay with one company for life, ignoring the fact that most people expect to change jobs at least once before retiring.

Laws aimed at protecting job changers have proved largely ineffective, though the poor treatment usually becomes apparent only when benefits are transferred. Often ten years in one company's scheme will be worth as little as two years' credit with a new one.

In one of the cases cited by PIRC, Maurice Corr, who worked for The Observer, the Sunday newspaper, for ten years, was offered a transfer value of £6,426 when he was made redundant this year.

"That was less than I had paid in myself and I had not accrued one single pound of interest," said Mr Corr, who felt he could have built the same money up to £15,000 by investing in unit trusts over the same time span.

His protests to Lornho, the parent company, drew a revised transfer value of £6,801: exactly the amount he had paid in. This was in line with the pension scheme's rule that

a transfer value must be at least equal to the member's contributions. Lornho noted that part of the reason for the low transfer value was that Mr Corr was not accruing any guaranteed minimum pension (GMP).

A GMP is the minimum a scheme must provide in order for members to be contracted out of the state earnings-related pension scheme. Mr Corr was working in Ireland and not paying national insurance, so he could not be contracted out.

Bryn Davies, an actuary at PIRC, acknowledged that Mr Corr's case was unusual, but said many people were doing as badly as he was on a substantial part of their pensions.

Although people who leave a contracted-out scheme have the GMP part of their deferred pension revalued in line with average earnings, the GMP that varies with age may amount to only half or a quarter of the pension at ages under 40 when job mobility is greatest. PIRC estimates that on average early leavers lose something like half to three-quarters of the value of their non-GMP pension rights and expectations when they take a deferred pension.

Another factor with a fundamental effect on transfer values is the difference between the actuarial assumptions used by the two schemes involved in a transfer.

Optimistic or pessimistic assumptions relating to investment performance can

make a difference of about 50 per cent either way to the number of additional years granted to younger employees by the second scheme. And the variations do not even out.

Mr Davies said there were significantly more losers than winners, because in self defence, most schemes tended to adopt favourable assumptions leading to reduced values.

A further tactic that is increasingly worsening transfer values is for scheme trustees to tell their actuaries to leave out of their calculations any discretionary benefits such as extra increases in pensions after retirement.

Although this is within the letter of the law, which says that calculations must take account of discretionary benefits paid under established custom, unless the trustees specifically decide otherwise, actuaries as a profession have condemned widespread use of the right as counter to the spirit of the law.

The impact on scheme members can be considerable. For example, if a scheme has guaranteed increases of 3 per cent a year in pensions, but has used its discretion to pay an actual 5 per cent, a calculation allowing for that benefit would add 15 per cent to the transfer value.

Calling for a number of changes in the law to improve the position of early leavers, PIRC forecast opposition from the pension industry on grounds of cost, and a repeat of the dire predictions for the future of schemes based on final pay that preceded previous improvements.

## RETIREMENT

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THE INVESTMENT HOUSE



# Bouts of calm after wrestling with Mammon

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

## BUSINESS PROFILE

### Stanley Kalms

If Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons Group, the electrical retailer, was an Old Testament character he would be Jacob, according to Jonathan Sacks, his close friend and Britain's next Chief Rabbi. "Jacob wrestled with God and Stanley wrestles with everything."

Most of those who know him well agree that the head of the world's largest specialist retailer of consumer electronics does not suit his descriptive surname. Calm he certainly is not. This is the first impression one gets of him is of his enormous resource of nervous energy. He speaks rapidly, his brain sometimes working faster than his mouth. Even sitting still, small, repetitive gestures show that he is a man used to being constantly on the move.

"He is not a serene individual," says Rabbi Sacks. "He is not even searching for serenity. He loves argument and there is nothing like a conflict for bringing out the best in him. He is a man of contagious energy with a remarkable passion for ideas. He has a fascination with intellectual challenges which I find awe-inspiring. He likes nothing better than the clash of minds. He mellowed at 11.30pm when he had a cigar and a glass of whisky but I wouldn't say he is relaxed."

Nigel Wilson, finance director of Stanhope Properties, who worked closely with Kalms at Dixons, agrees. "Stanley sees ambiguity and inconsistency as virtues. He will argue passionately from one point of view one day and equally passionately from the opposite viewpoint the next."

Kalms readily admits to an aggressive nature but nowadays it is more professional than personal. "I'm still as aggressive as ever but I have to turn it on. It's more of an act today. It wasn't an act for the first 20 years in management but you learn you can get just as much from being nice as from being aggressive."

The aggressive side of his personality may have upset employees who felt the sharp edge of his tongue but it is unlikely Kalms would be where he is today had he not been an angry young man. Nigel Wilson says: "Stanley loves the theatre of argument. Once you realise that, and if you are a bit resilient, you can understand the shouting and name calling. He's not a person to hold a grudge. Deep down he is a very caring man. If Stanley gave you a bellocking you knew he cared."

It is hard to believe that Dixons, which is perceived as one of the most aggressive retail groups and one of the most challenging businesses to work for, started off as a photographic studio in the Edgware Road where, every Saturday, a dozen naked, screaming infants would pose on a fur rug. Kalms joined his father's shop in 1948 at the age of 16 but had been interested in business from an early age. His father found him at nine in a small snuff business.

Neither father nor son had any photographic skills and Stanley Kalms confesses today to being unable to use a word processor. But he soon realised that the way forward was to sell cameras rather than portraits. The challenge was finding the stock. "It was a sellers market. There was insatiable demand and not much competition. I started with the advantage that

my dad had a terrifically good name and I had a lot of luck. It was all about buying, still is. I was a good buyer and worked at getting good merchandise. The breakthrough came on my first trip to the Far East in 1958. I discovered a wonderland in Japan."

There are those in the City who believe Dixons' philosophy has changed little since the early days. It was swept along on the back of the electronics boom and has suffered in the downturns.

But although times are still tough, Kalms has a renewed vigour these days. He has come through the black patch of the last few years with his energies intact. The bleakest time for the business was in 1987 after Dixons failed in its £1.8 billion bid for Woolworths Holdings, now called Kingfisher. Dixons' profits failed to grow at their previous rates and the share price fell from over 400p to under 200p in a matter of months. There was a degree of neurosis and

infecting some senior managers. Kalms appeared to lose confidence. Those who know him say he was deeply unhappy then.

The unhappiness of that period is illustrated by the controversy over the surveillance of former Dixons' employees. A private detective was jailed for three months in 1988 for bugging the telephone of an employee who had left Dixons to work for Comet, part of the Kingfisher group.

"It was a grotesquely offensive incident to us," says Kalms. "It was unauthorised, an excess of enthusiasm by these consultants. It certainly was not company policy. There isn't a word to describe how I felt, horrified is an understatement. It is the most aggravating thing that's happened to me in all my years of business. It was remote from us but even so I was distressed by it. It wasn't in our immediate control but nevertheless we were employing these people."

Kalms suffered all the more because of his Jewish ethics. His faith is extremely important to him and he has a keen sense of morality. Some say he was close to resigning over the incident.

Rabbi Sacks says the downturn in Dixons' fortunes coincided with a time when Kalms had undertaken some extremely ambitious projects for the Jewish community. There were enormous demands on his energies and he was in danger of burning himself out. In the end he reduced his community commitments. "He came through that period very well," says Rabbi Sacks.

But the problems which the business faced ran deeper than Dixons initially acknowledged. Ironically it was the audacious £250 million bid for Currys, the electrical retailer, masterminded by a team including Morgan Grenfell's Roger Seelig and David Mayhew of Cazenove, which triggered the trouble. At the time the

bid was rightly hailed as a triumph and it threw Dixons, which was floated on the stock market in 1970, into the limelight.

But the integration of the two retailers was disastrous. Kalms admitted: "We took over a company dramatically bigger than ourselves and we made one or two fundamental errors. Of all the years we've been in business they were the most difficult. I didn't work on my instincts and allowed two groups to develop within the company."

Dixons and Currys had separate management teams and eventually became each other's biggest competitor. They had incompatible computers and when the problem was finally corrected, Currys' system was scrapped.

Kalms says: "There was a concept then called parallel retailing which shows how important it is not to listen to popular garbage. Everyone was into it, even Ralph Halpern was doing it. Nowadays I can't think of anything more nonsensical than that philosophy, but we believed in it then. It took a couple of years for the problems to come to light and a year to pull it back and create two separate identities with one management. I won't say it was too late, but time

**'There is a degree of machismo in hostile takeovers. You are dragged into the bloody arena by merchant banks. It's the wrong way and is idiotically expensive. You are driven by the arithmetic and common sense goes out the window'**

was wasted. Nowadays Dixons and Currys are complementary to each other, not competitive."

Not only did Kalms sort out the fundamental problems in his business he also set about improving his relationship with the City. "I have to admit I'd never paid that much attention to it," he says. "It was a good relationship but I'd never fostered it. Then it started to slip and I had no base." He took the chance of Kingfisher's recent £568 million bid for Dixons, which the Monopolies Commission blocked, to refocus his image. His honesty about past mistakes impressed the institutions and he has also convinced them of his future plans. Having been out of favour for some time, Dixons is now seen as one of the retail sector's best recovery stocks even though profits are set to fall this year.

But while the bid from Kingfisher has given Kalms renewed vigour, he has grave doubts about hostile takeovers. "Geoff Mulcahy and I should be ashamed of ourselves. We've now spent £40 million on a couple of little skirmishes. At the end of the day you're only talking to 30 institutions, so why spend £10 million defending and £15 million attacking. The thing is ludicrous," he says.

He is optimistic that in future Dixons will be involved in agreed mergers rather than hostile bids. "There is a degree of machismo in hostile takeovers. You're dragged into the bloody arena by merchant banks. It's the wrong way and is idiotically expensive. You are driven by arithmetic and common sense goes out the window."



Good on buying at the right price but don't ask him to work it: Stanley Kalms readily admits he is not happy with technology

He hints that if Kingfisher had been less belligerent in its approach for Dixons and had proposed a merger, the bid may have turned out differently. "Management should talk and see if they can come together. If we had spoken properly it might have made a very sensible merger," he says. He has plans to make inroads into Continental Europe in the

consumer durables market. He was initially attracted to Kingfisher by the prospect of B&Q and the challenge of Woolworths. He has also cast his eye over British Home Stores and MFI in the past. "I was keen on the DIY market originally. I wouldn't do it today, but furniture is also a business where there is compatibility."

He feels confident about the future despite several tough years ahead for electrical retailing in Britain, but there are questions with which he is grappling. "I'm not sure what sort of customer service there will be in future," he says. "Consumers haven't made up their minds whether they want price or service. They want our prices and then get irritated when they can't get as much attention as they want, but the economics don't allow for that."

Some believe he also has a problem with succession. He will stay with the business for some time yet but there is no obvious successor. At one point all three of his sons, Richard, Stephen and Paul were involved with the business but they have now left. Kalms confesses to being slightly disappointed that none of his sons will follow in his footsteps but says he is glad they have branched out.

His strong family bond is renowned in the City. The ex-

tended family, which now includes five grandchildren, meets up once a week for a meal. All 13 go on an annual skiing holiday. Kalms taught all his grandchildren to ski and says the holiday with them is the highlight of his year. His wife Pamela, to whom he has been married for 37 years, says: "He's the patriarch of the family. We all look to him. We both feel that the family unit is the most important thing." His sons all live within a mile of his Stanmore home.

"He is a very shy man," says Mrs Kalms. "I think his aggression may come from his shyness. He underestimates himself and he still gets nervous if he has to make a speech. His tolerance surprises me. The one thing he dislikes is idle chatter or distractions. He doesn't like gossip. He likes to see people contributing something."

He is Jewish communal life is extremely important to him and he is most likely to socialise with Jewish academics. His passion is education; his own formal education was cut off at the age of 16 and Rabbi Sacks says he will back virtually any imaginative or innovative project.

Kalms is a wealthy man. In addition to his Middlesex res-

idence he has a flat in London's West End, where he spends an increasing amount of time going to the theatre, opera and ballet. His yacht, currently in the south of France, has a sophisticated communications system. His stake in the company is worth £6.5 million and he has private investments in property. In 1987 he was among the top ten British earners with a salary of £660,000 and though that has fallen in line with the group's profits, he earned £526,000 last year. But he has given vast amounts of money away.

Recently he told BBC's Panorama team that he had donated £100,000 of his personal wealth to the Conservative Party. In addition to funding Jewish schools, he sponsors individuals through the "Kalms Scholarships". Most of his protégés become rabbis.

Would he have made a good rabbi himself? Jonathan Sacks laughs. "He would certainly be an unorthodox one." But he rejects Kalms' description of himself as "unspiritual". "He is a much more spiritual person than he realises. There is an unresolved conflict in the heart of Stanley Kalms. I do not know what it is. I don't think he does, but it is the source of his energy. He has great things still to do and great things still to discover about himself."

## Sweet and sour taste of change

### CAPITAL CITY

ALAN TILLER IN VANCOUVER



Boom: downtown Vancouver

THINGS are changing in Vancouver, the heart of British Columbia, where about half the province's three million people live. Nowadays, the Chinese form the second largest community, just behind Canadians of English origin and ahead of the descendants of Scottish settlers.

There has been a considerable influx of money from the Pacific Rim, with nervous Hong Kong millionaires - and a few billionaires - leading the way. They have been followed by the Japanese, whose speciality seems to be buying up ski resorts, then South Koreans and Taiwanese. The latter paid £6 million to Bill Vander Zalm, British Columbia's prime minister, for his Fantasy Park (flowers with a touch of Disney), and so sparked a wave of big headlines, alleged scandals and mud-slinging across the political and business worlds.

Journalists from ABC, the American television network, disguised as potential investors, have secretly filmed the activities of some brokers at the Vancouver exchange, with its "penny" stocks (those under one Canadian dollar) of mining companies with gold claims up near Alaska, and even more exotic stocks in wind surf simulators and even hair restorers. ABC called Vancouver the "seam capital", which the locals found a bit rich coming from New Yorkers.

Vancouver has certainly been Canada's boom capital since the success of Expo 86, the world's fair opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales. The former, sedate lifestyle has quickened with new investment and soaring property prices. Californians flock across the border by car, plane and cruise ships with film and television

crews in their wake. But traditional British property interests, as represented by Grosvenor Group, owned by the Duke of Westminster, and Laing, have been overshadowed by new money from Hong Kong.

Mr Li Ka-Shing, one of the world's richest men whose interests include property, telecoms, containers, retailing and energy, has joined with two fellow Hong Kong billionaires to buy the city centre Expo site of 166 acres plus 38 acres of "water lots" for the relative bargain price of Can\$328 million (£144 million). He plans to spend \$1 billion or more on 7,600 residential units, three million square feet of offices, plus parks and day care centres - the

biggest North American city development since New York's Battery Park.

Mr Li, aged 63, his sons and business associates are very much yacht people, as opposed to boat people, and are wisely covering their bets ahead of the 1997 cession of Hong Kong to China. There is a shrille life across the Pacific as they wait to see how Chinese policy towards the colony evolves. Other Hong Kong entrepreneurs and investors, comfortable though not in the same league, have bought their way into Vancouver through the official Canadian business immigration scheme: a quarter of a million pounds in proven assets plus a willingness to invest half in Vancouver.

Several thousand new Chinese-Canadian citizens have arrived in this way since Expo 86. The immigration authorities are raising the investment "ante" to about £160,000, but this is not expected to halt the flow into Vancouver's best residential neighbourhoods. Some English-style homes have been acquired by the newcomers, demolished and replaced by walled, modern properties utilising every inch of ground.

Among the Hong Kong chefs who have topped and left for Vancouver is the famed Lam Kam Shing, now serving his sizzling pig and deep fried shrimps at the Dynasty restaurant. But Vancouver's traditional Chinatown, the biggest outside Asia after San Francisco, has attracted some different kinds of investor - members of Hong Kong's 14k triad crime syndicate, who are into protection, gambling, prostitution and "China white" heroin rather than telecoms and the like.

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# Riding in with a fistful of dollars

## SUMMARY

### Pension Sleuths

Amateur investigators who trace pension entitlements for people who left jobs long ago are to receive official help. Next month the government will announce details of its pensions tracing service to be run by the Occupational Pensions Board. Page 44

### Jacob's ladder



If Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons Group, was an Old Testament character, he would be Jacob. Jonathan Sacks, his close friend and Britain's next chief rabbi, told Gillian Bowditch. Jacob wrestled with God and Stanley with everything. Page 45

### Baku backers

Investors in a Soviet oil company, which was wound up in 1943, are now being asked to make claims for £3 million being paid by the Soviet government. Page 44

### Your views

A bit late for advice from Weekend Money?



Doubts about the protection offered by investor compensation schemes are expressed by the City University's professor of personal finance. The split personality of Abbey National, Eirie's amnesia and the ingenuity of banks when it comes to charges come under discussion. Page 43

### Trust delay

Savers with investment trust saving schemes can face a three-week delay between the monthly payment being taken from their account and its being invested. Page 43

### Sparky offers

Cheap deals for selling electricity shares abound. The best has a minimum cost of £5 and allows dealing on day one before allotment letters are sent out. Page 41

### Help for aged

The chancellor will be asked to raise mortgage relief from £30,000 to £50,000 in the next Budget to help more elderly people raise income from their own home. Strong demand for the schemes has been curbed by high interest rates and falling house prices. Page 40

### Sheltered Aid

A new advisory and conciliation service has been set up to help owners of sheltered accommodation solve disputes with management companies. The market for sheltered housing is likely to expand rapidly over the next decade as the number of people over 85 almost doubles from 800,000 to 1.5 million by 2011. Page 40

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

#### Britain's biggest crash

"He must be heartbroken," says a former associate. It is not surprising. Recently Asil Nadir boasted that his personal wealth was nearly £1 bn. His business was valued at over £2 bn. Now Polly Peck shares are probably worthless.

Tomorrow The Sunday Times examines Britain's biggest corporate crash.

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THE "number one investment secret" in America is now being marketed in the heart of London. Certified Rare US Coins (CRUSC) has been set up this month in Piccadilly to sell gold and silver coins. It makes very grand claims for its performance.

In 10 years \$10,000 grew to \$257,000 outperforming stocks, bonds, money market, gold and real estate," it says. The company neglects to mention to new British investors that this year there have been steep falls in the American coin market and that the leading American grading house for its coins has been indicted by the Federal Trade Commission for



making false claims. Professional Coin Service Grading Inc agreed to stop certain marketing practices.

"Wall Street Journal confirms 50.6 per cent for 1989," proclaims CRUSC. It goes on to say that Merrill Lynch is placing \$75 million and Kidder Peabody \$40 million. But when questioned, Robert Mitchell, CRUSC's principal, admitted that the two American securities houses are running coin funds of their own trying to raise large sums and not investing it in the fledgling British company.

The certified coins being sold are sealed in plastic blocks. All are graded by independent grading houses. While prices rose throughout the Seventies and Eighties they have fallen "precipitously" this year according to one American coin expert and many collectors and dealers have lost money.

James Lamb of Christie's in New York said: "The market has disintegrated, almost ceased to exist. I only found out this week that the electronic trading networks, which traded these coins as commodities, have been shut. There has been an enormous loss of confidence since the indictment in August of the major grading house, Professional Coin Grading Service, which accounts for about 65 per cent of the grading business was charged by the Federal Trade Commission for making false claims in its advertising." The grading house agreed to abide by regulations laid down by the FTC. The complaints were not withdrawn and the case could be referred back to the court.

Anyone who visits the CRUSC offices will be shown a number of coins, but not the ones that they might purchase. Mr Mitchell explained to Weekend Money that the company did not carry a large amount of stock but would advise investors in this country and then buy coins in America during the following two to three weeks.

But before it could do this, customers must pay a non-refundable deposit of 20 per cent to the company. The "practical minimum investment" according to Mr Mitchell is £5,000, making the "up-front" deposit, £1,000. Investments of £3,000 would be accepted, says the literature.

"For that we would recommend

## Lindsay Cook on the trail of a company that is trying to market a scheme for British investors to buy unseen dollar coins whose value can very rapidly decline

one dollar coin and possibly a couple of Morgan silver dollars," said Mr Mitchell. "We would then notify our buyers in the US and they would seek out the coins we wanted to buy. It would probably take two to three weeks to get them at the right price."

Customers rejecting the coins could lose their deposit. "It has to be non-refundable because we are going into the market. When the coin is delivered they pay the remainder," said Mr Mitchell.

The company will take payment of the deposit by credit card. But some people signing the specimen application form might not realise they are committing themselves to the deposit. "Yes please forward my rare coin selection as specified below" it urges, then asks customers to select from American rare gold, American silver dollars and selected mix and to state the purchase amount.

It then asks for credit information about the customer including the number of their Visa or Mastercard credit card and its expiry date. It also asks for a signature.

The form goes on to say that CRUSC is a strong advocate of consumer protection and offers a guarantee. This states that the coins will be accurately graded by a third party independent grading



Risk warning: James Morton of Sotheby's advises consulting a dealer

service. Among the grading services used by CRUSC is Professional Coin Grading Service.

But the company admits that "grading necessarily involves subjectivity" and says that investors are free to have their coins regraded by an expert or dealer of their choice. "If not completely satisfied with the grading you may return your coins within 14 days of purchase for a full refund."

On its buy-back policy the firm says: "CRUSC's buy-back policy is not a guarantee; it is a policy. Therefore, it is subject to change. CRUSC cannot guarantee that, when you desire to liquidate your coins, CRUSC will be able to repurchase them from you at a profit."

It also gives a warning: "The purchase of coins involves some risk. Therefore before purchasing coins, you should first have adequate cash reserves to absorb any loss."

CRUSC also says: "If you wish to, or must sell your coins to another dealer, you may not be offered a price as high as the one you would receive from CRUSC. Even if your coins have appreci-



iated substantially, other dealers will typically offer you a wholesale price that may result in a loss."

Mr Mitchell, who said that he was operating as a franchisee, and had been involved in coins for many years, said: "People have lost a lot of money in shares and real estate. With coins they tend not to lose." His company is an unincorporated branch of Certified Rare Coins Galleries in

matic News said: "You certainly have a chance to lose. It is a very volatile market because it is a thin market." He continued: "This year has been a poor time. They have come down by up to 50 per cent in value. Silver dollars have fallen most. The most common have taken the biggest fall."

Mr Doyle added: "People have done very well from coins but it is not something that a novice can walk into and make money."

Keith Zainer, who monitors the trends in American coins for *Coin World* said that the 50.6 per cent rise in coin prices reported by the *Wall Street Journal* was specifically for mint state 65 coins in 1989. "What has happened is that they have dropped precipitously since then. Since March they have been declining rather sharply. The worst hit coins are common date mint state 63 and better Morgan dollars, Peace dollars, half dollars, common date gold coins and common silver coins. Of the gold coins the 20 dollars had been worst affected. Coins are not an investment which just go straight up."

On certified coins, sealed in blocks, Mr Zainer said: "You have to be careful which professional grading service is used and each investor must educate themselves first just like the stock market."

James Morton, coin specialist at Sotheby's in London said: "Some people have had their fingers very badly burned. Old coins are not a commodity. The value depends on the quality and rarity. It tends to be rather subjective and coins tend to be overgraded."

"There are some so-called independent coin grading services that do the grading. That grading can make a big difference to the price. A coin with a MS 65 might be sold for \$4,000 whereas one with MS 66 could be valued at \$30,000. Yet there could be very little to choose between the coins. It is in the eye of the beholder and some people resubmit a coin a dozen times to grading houses to in an attempt to get a better grade."

Mr Morton said that there were supposed to be market-makers in the certified coin market in America. They were supposed to buy a given quantity of MS 63 coins, and above, each month. They used to guarantee to bid at a certain price unseen. This is no longer the case. They were making bids and not honouring them. They had to show they were buying a certain number of coins but there was not enough money around.

Sotheby's sold a number of rare American coins at an auction in London two weeks ago. "The dealer marks up when he sells on. I have seen examples where things like this are sold at a very considerable mark up which makes investment claims very thin. You could buy at auction at a third of the price asked by some dealers," he said.

Mr Morton offered investors the following advice: "Anyone considering buying rare coins



CRUSC of the matter: the company's rented offices in Piccadilly

would do well to pause and consult dealers who are members of the British Numismatic Trade Association, which should give a reasonable opinion."

CRUSC guarantees to buy the required coins within 30 days of



the deposit being paid. Mr Morton commented: "If there is so much stock in the US that a guarantee to buy within 30 days can be made does it not suggest that a lot of coins are available?"

He continued: "You can make the figures appear how you want them to with coins. Some of the Morgan dollar coins issued from

1878 to 1921 are rare and others quite common. There are quite a lot of MS 65 common date coins. There are masses around that have not found buyers."

He added: "The market for US coins generally is very quiet at the moment. There are a number of dealers to my knowledge in difficulties in the US at the moment. I would advise caution."

The NFA World Coin Fund sponsored by Merrill Lynch Capital Markets in May planned to sell up to 75,000 \$1,000 dollar units which was to be mainly invested in pre-1947 US coins. No-one at Merrill Lynch in New York would talk about the fund. But a spokesman confirmed it was still open.

Mr Lamb of Christie's added: "There are also a large number of beautiful, rare coins. Owning them can be a wonderful experience. They can also be rewarding from a financial point of view. But you need to spend years developing your own good taste, knowledge and contacts. You cannot pay someone to make your choice."

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